34 - Ala.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAN WHO SMASHED KU KLUX IS DEAD

JAN 18 1941

Montgomery's Grover C. Hall Was Arch Foe of Racial, Religious Intolerance.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 16—Grover Cleveland Hall, 52, one of the South's most influential and widely read editors, arch foe of religious and racial intolerance, and credited with smashing the political power of the Ku Klux Klan in Alamama—died in a local hospital late Thursday afternoon, following a brief illness from uremic poisoning, induced by stomach ulcers.

Taken suddenly ill at the home of friends Sunday evening, he was removed to the hospital the following morning. Six blood-transfusions, for which practically every employe of The Montgomery Advertiser, of which he had served as editor since 1926, volunteered, several being accepted, failed to bring a favorable reaction, and he grew steadily weaker until the end came.

JAN 18 1941

Beginning his newspaper career when only 17, as a "printer's devil," he rose rapidly in his profession, and served for a number of years as Associate Editor of The Advertiser before succeeding to the editorship. For his editorials attacking the then powerful Ku Klux Klan organization in Alabama, he won the Pulitzer Prize for the best editorial work of the year, in 1928. The shattering of the Klan's political grip on Alabama, which he had begun in that year resulted in its complete destruction in the year following by the election of the anti-Klan candidate for Governor.

In addition to his widow he is survived by one son, Grover C. Hall Jr.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MIAMI, FLORIDA KU KLUX KLAN ON MARCH AGAIN

AUG 30 1941

AUG 30 1941

The KKK evidently does not believe that Negroes should have decent, respectable homes for when they learned that new homes for the race had been proposed for a certain village near Miami, they organized a long line of automobiles, seen above, and the robed members went to the scene of the homes. Four fiery crosses were burned but there were no arrests or disorder. Tourists who were attracted by the crosses jammed the village.—International News Photo.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
August 19, 1941

Ku Klux Plants Fiery Crosses In Housing Unit

Proposed Miami Project for Negroes Is Scene of Demonstration.

MIAMI, Fla., Aug. 18.—(AP)—Some 200 men in Ku Klux Klan regalia planted fiery crosses tonight at the corners of a proposed private Negro housing project in the Pinewood Park section.

The white-robed men, unmasked, appeared after residents of the area held a mass meeting in protest against the project.

There were no disorders.

One of the men, speaking over a public address system, told residents that "we are happy to keep Negroes from driving you from your homes."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

MIAMI KLANS IN PROTEST PARADE AGAINST NEGRO HOUSING PROJECT

OCT 25 1941

MIAMI, Fla., Oct. 23—After 15 years of impotence the Ku Klux Klan came out of its rat-hole here this week to protest against a housing project designed to benefit some of the city's 50,000 Negroes whose living conditions would make a Polish immigrant wish for the old home town of Cracow.

Through Miami's streets paraded 200 automobiles with loud speakers bawling:

"Don't worry about the n——s moving in on you. You don't have to put up with things the way they are over at Miami Beach where they sleep with the n——s."

KLAN TAKES UP WHERE LAW LEAVES OFF

Taking their cue from Hitler's storm troopers in the early days the Klan now shouts:

"When the law fails you. . . call on us!"

OCT 25 1941

One of the city "fathers" admitted that several officials and many police officers were Klansmen.

"What if it came to a showdown," he was asked. "Suppose you had to support the Klan, or denounce it?"

"Why, now," the city official hedged, "we don't anticipate such a situation. Besides, the Klan takes up where the law leaves off. . . see?"

Miami's colored citizens are looking for the Nazi swastika to break out in the streets any day now. . unless Uncle Sam happens to be around. The fanatics in the borrowed bed sheets don't like Mister Whiskers to interfere. He spoils their "fun." The only thing the Klansman does NOT like, is to be identified. That is unless it is a storm trooper who pulls that sheet off his face.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Lauding the Klan

After the novel "Oliver Wiswell," which glorifies the Tory traitors to the American Revolution and after the motion picture "Santa Fe," which slanders John Brown, it isn't difficult to figure out the next one.

You guessed it: a glorification of the Ku Klux Klan. In a more insidious way, this was done by "Gone With the Wind."

But it remained for the Herald Tribune, which pretends to champion Abraham Lincoln, to publish unconcealed admiration for the Klan. In a highly editorialized story on Dec. 27, the Tribune spoke of how "heroically" the Klan rode in the lynch-inciting "Birth of a Nation." Further, it spoke of the Klan as a "romantic and gallant protest against carpet-bagger brutality." (The carpet-baggers, of course, fought for that citizenship of Negroes still denied to them by the poll tax—one of the main props of American imperialism and the Roosevelt Administration.)

The cycle of poison propaganda is complete. The American people should still be colonial subjects of the ancestors of the imperialist Churchill, John Brown was "against" the union because he helped pave the way for Lincoln's freeing of the slaves; and the white-robed exponents of Hitlerism, who lynch American citizens, are "romantic and gallant."

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

THIS MORNING

by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES II

"The cattle are grazing,
Their heads never raising,
They are forty feeding like one."

* * *

Who says this column is of no use in the world? Or that what helps agriculture doesn't help industry? Listen to this from a woman reader who works occasionally in a factory: "Several years ago," she writes, "I was working in a factory, and on the days when you headed your column with 'The cattle are grazing —Their heads never raising' I worked to the rhythm of those lines all day long, and though I would try to get it out of my head and would think 'Damn that poem and that Graves fellow,'—nevertheless I would have to smile; and I did more work than my fellow workers . . ."

* * *

Southern opinion, like most other opinion in this country, is for gambling on all aid to England short of war, with recognition of the chance of getting drawn into war itself. If the gamble should fail and war become inevitable, it is interesting to consider that the war spirit would probably develop more rapidly and extensively in the South than anywhere else. This would be due not only to Southern temperament and to the greater percentages of Anglo-Saxon descent but also to the historic and economic ties especially binding Southerners to the British.

* * *

There is the colonial tradition, strong in the South. There is the memory of English sympathies during the Civil War. There is the web of relationships developed in the long business of selling Southern cotton to British mills. And there is the fact of much English money and many English enterprises having participated in the industrial growth of certain parts of the South during this century. The two last-named facts may explain why the South seems to have less than its percentage of "scared industrialists" who think a good working arrangement with Hitler should be made and who wonder secretly if he hasn't something of the right idea.

* * *

What times are these! The Pittsburgh Junior Chamber of Commerce has named as its first "Pittsburgh Man of the Year" Mr. Philip Murray, the CIO leader. He was given the award for outstanding work for labor and national defense.

* * *

Interesting to several parties who may be surprised to find themselves on the list is a description of "the Fascist-minded minority in America" by Dean Lockwood, of Haverford College. "We have always had a minority of Fascist-minded people in America," he declared recently, "and always will have. If these people ever get control we are lost. I refer to:

1. The Ku Klux Klan and simller organizations, 100 per cent Fascist and (in origin at least) 100 per cent American.
2. The violent wing of our labor organizations and the equally violent wing of our industrialists.
3. The mobs who lynch.

And I could go on citing native groups which at various times and places have been and are Fascist in spirit. Of course if you start by defining Fascism and Naziism as Mussolinian and Hitlerian, you are merely arguing in circles. It is the spirit that counts, not the exact pattern."

For the most startling picture painted lately on this side of the ocean, we nominate Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, of the Ku Klux Klan. Declaring war on Communists, Nazis and Fascists, he told Washington newspaper men the other day, "If ever it becomes necessary to drive these subversive elements out of the country, I can call together 4,000,000 of my people on a moment's notice and tell them to grab axes, clubs, anything they can find, and report at once for duty at the nearest police station or army headquarters."

* * *

The most repulsive of all the forms of stinginess in this world, it seems to us, is that of the wealthy individual who didn't make the money he or she is stingy with. Stinginess on the part of people whose wealth is self-made is ugly but excusable, for pinching pennies may have been the way the money was made, and the habit may be unbreakable, once acquired. But when the heirs of such people turn out to be penny-pinchers, too, maneuvering as hard to escape paying a few cents or dollars as ever their fathers did, that is something repulsive in toto. For penny-pinching by people who don't have to do so, is soul-pinching, heart-pinching. A best reason for the original making of the money with which they are so stingy was, surely, that somebody might some day live generously with it. Generously not merely in the sense of spending it freely but in the more important sense of expending heart and soul freely.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Cases Of Judges Parker And Black Reveal The Uncertainty Of Life

(Philadelphia Tribune)

SOME YEARS AGO Judge Parker of North Carolina was nominated for a vacancy on the Supreme Court of the United States, but Labor and the NAACP joined forces and blocked confirmation of his nomination by the United States Senate.

More recently, United States Senator Hugo L. Black, of Alabama, was nominated and confirmed for a similar position; and, of course, the nation-wide furor created by the revelation that he had been a member of the Ku Klux Klan is now history.

Judge Parker is now admitted to be one of the most liberal judges in the South, where colored litigants are concerned, and Mr. Justice Black has, in his short period on the Supreme Court bench, written two sweeping decisions of which the Negro was the primary benificiary.

Mr. Justice Black was one of the several white men who "made" the honor roll for 1940 in Race Relations.

These two instances reveal how uncertain life is; how difficult it is to see into the future. They do not mean, however, that in the event of similar cases in the future, vigorous protest should not be made against the appointment of men with like records.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

Heywood Broun

THE COLLECTED EDITION OF HEYWOOD BROUN, *edited by Heywood Hale Broun. Harcourt Brace. $3.75.*

HEYWOOD BROUN never spent more than a couple of hours a day earning a living. The columns collected in this book give a meager impression of him, for writing columns was only a part of his life. When the Newspaper Guild held a memorial meeting after his death a year ago, it heard the testimony of seedy wits who had played poker with him and lunched on Scotch at the Algonquin in the 1920's, of militant labor leaders, of reformers, of liberals who had urged him to fight for the civil liberties of their set, of the Catholic priest who converted him, of a taxi-driver, a bartender, of theatrical and sporting persons, of his successor as president of the Newspaper Guild, of his colleagues on the *World-Telegram*, the *Connecticut Nutmeg*, and a hundred CIO picket lines. They all told stories about him and all but the priest admitted that they never knew what made him tick.

All his life, like Gandle in his early novel, Broun followed his nose. He followed his nose from the *Morning Telegraph* to the AEF, to the New York *World*, to the *Telegram*, to the *Post*. Without apparently expending much effort, he produced many millions of words of clear, predominantly sensible, humorous, occasionally moving, occasionally indignant newspaper copy, and organized one of the most successful and respected unions in the CIO. Even in his early days, when he was endeavoring to foster the impression that he was in fact nothing more than a frivolous sports writer with simple tastes and an enormous capacity for liquor, he was alert to injustice. In this book are some of the columns he wrote against the Ku Klux Klan. He was lazy and amiable and he had a dislike for giving people offense. When he followed his nose into uncompromising support of the Bill of Rights and industrial unionism and found himself to his astonishment at the head of an industrial union, he began for the first time to use his hatred of injustice as an instrument to destroy injustice. He was still as lazy and amiable, which to many labor leaders was the strange thing about Broun, but he was constantly obliged by his position, his honesty, and just the drift of the times, to become more staunch and uncompromising. The Bill of Rights had powerful enemies, and when he died he was hated by many important people and mistrusted by his employers. At one time, just after a public-opinion poll showed that he was the second most popular columnist in the country, it began to seem probable that he would not be able to find a job in the newspaper business. Roy Howard never seemed more insignificant than when he fired Heywood Broun. Ralph Pulitzer fired him from the *World* for "extravagantly" condemning the murderers of Sacco and Vanzetti instead of writing comically about his infant son, and Howard fired him for what amounted to union activity, which is a measure of how far Broun had come in thirteen years.

The truth was, Broun's columns could not have been printed at any other period in the history of American journalism. Broun flourished at a time when it was becoming impossible for journalists with integrity to spend all their time watching race horses. The Newspaper Guild would have been organized if Broun had never set foot outside the Algonquin, for newspaper unions were springing up without urging all over the country, but Broun, with his national syndication and his easy-going reputation, was a dramatic figure who could start things going and hold them together. These were the great days of Broun's life. The Dies committee and the ignorant, bigoted Southern poll-tax politicians never had an opponent like Broun. He knew that he was for the labor movement, and he had a sharp eye for its enemies. It gave pith and sinew to his writing. The columns he wrote in this period are worth reading now. At the end, after he had made up his mind too quickly about the German-Soviet non-aggression pact, there was no strength or purpose in his columns. In the last few months of his life he was sick and angry. I remember one of the subjects he used to feel strongly about was the sterility and degradation of the Broadway theater, and he wrote many columns about it. One of the last columns he wrote for Roy Howard attacked, not the theater, but first-nighters who came to the theater late. His last fifty or sixty columns were like that.

I think the present volume, which has been carefully collected by Heywood's son, Heywood Hale Broun, now writing sports for *PM*, would have told more about Broun if the section covering 1935 to 1939 had been expanded to fill the book. As it is, it gives the sketchy outlines of a picture of an honest American who believed in himself and the future of labor.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Klan To Argue Restoring Mask To Its Regalia

Resolution Expected To Be Vetoed by Colescott If Passed.

Delegates to the Ku Klux Klan's legislative Klonvokation will debate this morning a resolution asking that the identity-shrouding mask again be used as part of the official regalia, but reliable sources reported that even if the resolution is passed it will be vetoed promptly by Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, of Atlanta.

The mask was abandoned by the Klan at its last Klonvokation, after it had become a highly controversial issue not only inside the secret organization but also among the general public. The white hood, however, has always been retained.

The biennial Klonvokation will come to an end at 8 o'clock tonight when the 500 delegates, all in hoods, gather at Stone mountain for the traditional burning of the cross, to which the public has been invited.

Another resolution which will be discussed this morning calls for a nation-wide campaign to raise $1,000,000 from the Klan's membership of 5,000,000, with which to carry on the organization's campaign against subversive activities.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Ku Klux Klan To Hold Tenth Klonvocation

Burning of Huge Cross on Stone Mountain To Mark Meeting.

The tenth biennial session of the Imperial Klonvocation, legislative body of the Ku Klux Klan, will begin a series of four closed meetings at 8 o'clock tonight in the Henry Grady hotel.

This year for the first time, however, the traditional secrecy of the Klonvocation will be broken Saturday night when Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott, of Atlanta, delivers his closing address to 500 Klan delegates and the general public assembled at the base of Stone mountain.

Following this address at 8 o'clock, which will outline the policy of the Ku Klux Klan for the next two years, members will burn a 185-foot cross on the top of the mountain. The public also will be invited to witness this ceremony.

Preceding the opening Klonvocation meeting tonight will be a session of the Imperial Kloncilium, corresponding to a national board of directors.

Delegates to the meeting will not be hooded at the downtown sessions. Hoods will be worn at the burning of the cross ceremony at Stone mountain.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Klan Frowns On Remasking Plea

Ku Klux Klan delegates who attended their national convention held here Thursday through Saturday voted down a resolution to remask by a count of 587 to 22.

The Klan was unmasked by Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott a year ago.

It was reported that the convention unanimously adopted a resolutin offered by Colescott pledging the Klansmen of the nation to raise $1,000,000 during the next year "to promote Americanism."

"Since our membership is composed exclusively of American-born men and women, there is no divided allegiance where the welfare of this nation is concerned," read the resolution.

The convention was brought to a close Saturday night with cross-burning ceremonies at Stone Mountain.

Thirty-eight states were represented in attendance at the biennial session.

34-1941

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

IN ONE WEEK, on the same day, too, you heard from the Ku Klux Klan and the American Legion.

Not much difference, as you know, between the Klan and the Legion in some sections. No, no! says the Klan when colored Americans knock on the door of their government.

Then it looks around for guns, sheets, ropes, etc. Back in camp, after performing its tasks, it low-rates Hitler and Lincoln.

The Legion SAYS the same thing when colored SOLDIERS knock on its door. No guns, sheets, etc., of course, but things equal to the same thing are equal to each other.

The Klan met a few days ago at headquarters, Atlanta. In the heart of that city stands a monument to Henry W. Grady. Also, near its heart, are found monuments to W. T. Sherman.

Expect, then, any kind of news from Atlanta. The Imperial Wizard, James Colescott, an old horse doctor, told the tenth biennial Klonvocation that he knew what to do in a time like this.

"Employ," he said, "only second generation Americans on defense projects; let them take care of sabotage." Maybe the klan is about to open its doors to colored people.

You can never tell. They can run up to the fifth and sixth generation.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

The Legion's Washington man, John T. Taylor, told Congress to "close all doors—every one of them." He thought the House hadn't gone far enough in a bill against aliens.

Too late, now, Mr. Taylor; the horse is gone. While on doors, maybe the Legion will open one to soldiers while Congress is busy trying to close one to aliens.

The Klan, on the Wizard's word, has 4,500 lodges and five million members all in all. Saturday night the delegates burned a "cross" 185 feet high on top of Stone mountain.

From his seat on the Right Hand, Jesus, looking down, must have said, Hell fashioned my Cross and keepeth the pattern.

Suppose the Klan had seen Sherman coming over the hill during the exercises at Stone mountain? The Fast Mail wouldn't have been it.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

In the Wind

AUG 23 1941

THE MILLION-DOLLAR "Americanization" program of the Ku Klux Klan is apparently successful in many parts of the country. Increased Klan activity is reported in New York, Illinois, Indiana, and Colorado. Because of the friction generated there by the Coughlin movement, Detroit has been chosen as a try-out center for open Klan activity, and more than a few Klansmen were present at the recent convention of the automobile workers in Buffalo. A new addition to Klan propaganda is "the inflation menace." One Klan publication, predicting a crash after the defense boom has spent its force, says, "Someone, some organization must be ready to take over the country when it finds itself in chaos, and we are best equipped to do it."

Nation
New York, N. Y.

THE KU KLUX KLAN has reprinted the famous "international Jew" articles which appeared in Henry Ford's *Dearborn Independent* and is distributing over a million copies of the pamphlet. Dr. L. M. Birkhead has called upon Ford to repudiate both the articles and the Klan use of them.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

The group of songs that deal with issues having political overtones are not so numerous as the foregoing classification, but they are fairly common. There are many abolitionist tunes, and some go back to the problems of the American Revolution and the War of 1812. Here is one from Georgia that has its say about "Ku Kluck Klan":

It say in de Bible how, Lawd he make man,
But who in de hell make Ku Kluck Klan.
Shaped like a tadpole, smell like a skunk,
Hide in midnight sheet, like chintz in a bunk.
Ku Kluck Klan, Ku Kluck Klan,
Lowest down creeper in de lan'.

Within the general classifications, the songs that Americans have made for themselves in home and fields and cities are infinite in their variety. The dominant unity of these folksongs is that here simple Americans are expressing themselves in music of their own making. The themes of American life are the themes of its folksongs.

GENERAL

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

A Midwest Publisher Hits Pegler's Ku Klux Ravings

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MANSFIELD, Ohio, July 20.—In his regular signed Sunday column, "The Editor's Notebook," John Knight, publisher and editor of the Akron-Beacon-Journal, Detroit Free Press, and Miami Herald, today attacked Westbrook Pegler for his recent viciously anti-foreign born column appearing in the Knight papers. Referring to Pegler's slogan, "America for Americans" Knight states:

"Mr. Pegler seized upon an old slogan which once provided the chief election argument of backwoods politicians and the blood-chilling rallying cry of the cowardly Ku Klux Klan as it rose to unprecedented power in the middle 1920's."

Knight quotes at length from authorities on the contributions of immigrants to American life and calls for "acceptance of all citizens, whatever their national or racial origins, as equal partners in American society." He concludes: "The immigration of the past half century has strengthened rather than diluted the biological quality of our original stock—without knowing from what country Pegler's forebears may have come, it is only fair to assume they weren't American Indians."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Klan Seeks $1,000,000 For Intolerance Program

BY ASSOCIATED NEGRO PRESS

In promotion of its contemplated program of "Americanism" against Negroes, Catholics, Jews and aliens, the Ku Klux Klan is seeking a $1,000,000 fund, according to information received from southern representatives of the American Civil Liberties union. Reports have it that the Klan has already raised $100,000 toward this fund.

SEP 22 1941

Articles appearing in the August issue of "The Fiery Cross", official Klan publication here, attack Catholics and urge halting all immigration for 10 years. Too, renewed attacks on Jews have been made in this issue of the Klan's paper, which observers believe presages a Klan campaign in that direction.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Ku Kluxism in the Nation's Pages

• An article in the August 30th Nation entitled "Why the Army Gripes," and which purports to be a discussion of army morale is, in effect, a crude expression of Hitlerism against the Negro people.

The author, one Harold Lavine, pretends that the Negro troops are responsible for the ills of white draftees. He writes: "They HATE Negroes, and their hatred seems to be mounting to hysteria." (Emphasis Lavine's.) He quotes some unnamed selectee as saying he'd like to "shoot" Joe Louis and still another as remarking he'd like "to shoot them" (referring to Negro officers—ed.).

This is the anti-Negro stuff of the Ku Klux Klan which could scarcely say worse. It is not only a libel and an incitation to violence against Negro soldiers, it is a defamation of the white soldiers. As a whole, the millions of selectees are workers and are a part of the fair-minded public which believes in clean sportsmanship and which are against lynch rule and Ku Kluxism.

Typical of the attitude of the white draftees toward their Negro brothers was the recent action of young Roger Starr, who publicly demanded to be put into a Negro regiment as a protest against jim-crowism in the armed forces. It can be seen again in the scores of trade union and other organizations which have joined with the Negro people in urging an end to segregation and jim-crowism in army ranks.

The scattered complaints which have come from draftees are due fundamentally to those army heads and Washington officials who conciliate the Hitler appeasers by maintaining jim-crowism and by failing to meet the just needs of the soldiers. The morale of the rank and file draftees is high for the defeat of Hitler and Hitlerism. An integral part of this morale is that the Negro and white selectees desire to work together on a basis of complete equality and that racial discrimination should be eliminated. Isolated or invented cases of attitudes among soldiers cannot remove responsibility of the Nation writer or editors in publishing material which feeds the Hitler appeasers and attacks army morale

Miami, Fla. Herald
August 20, 1941

Speaking of Americans

A SPOKESMAN for the Ku Klux Klan during a demonstration against a proposed new negro subdivision in the northwest section of Miami proclaimed that the organization assumed leadership of the movement to keep negroes out of the Pinewood Park area.

The same spokesman described the Klansmen as "true Americans." The parade and lighting of fiery crosses were accomplished without masks and in that small degree lessened the opprobrium that attaches to the K. K. K.

We might observe that Klansmen are not the only true Americans, and that if the Klan desires to deserve that description it might reserve its effort to a formal appearance before the county zoning board, rather than putting on a childish parade.

True Americans would follow the American way of proper protest to duly constituted legal authority on the matter at issue.

We rather doubt, too, that the Klan had anything to do with leading the movement against the proposed new negro subdivision. Residents of the affected area rose up en masse, and now it appears that the Klan is trying to claim credit in the hope of gaining some momentum for its current membership campaign.

We are wholly sympathetic with residents of the Pinewood Park section. Their homes would be seriously affected by setting up a negro community next door to them, and the area is zoned for whites.

The Dade County Planning Council four years ago set up zones for expansion of the negro community and real estate promoters have been trying to put in new negro subdivisions ever since—in areas reserved for whites, instead of going to those set aside for negroes.

We recognize the need of additional housing for negroes, but we simply can't understand why these bleeding heart promoters who want to do something for the negro don't try to do it in the negro zones.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Ku Klux Activity

September 28 1941

• According to the Associated Negro Press, one of the largest Negro news services, the Ku Klux Klan has begun a nationwide campaign for a million dollar fund, of which $100,000 has already been given.

The purpose of this fund, it is clear, is to renew the Klan's notorious persecution of trade union and minority groups. Such a danger today is of triple gravity because it is intended to divide national unity against Hitler and Hitlerism.

It appears that there is to be a division of tasks, with the Klan centering its attacks upon Catholic citizens, and the America First Committee selecting the Jewish Americans as its main target. The Associated Negro Press is right in condemning both these Fifth Column outfits and in recognizing that a campaign against any minority group is a menace to the Negro people.

An investigation is very much in order by the Federal Government to nip this Klan plot in the bud and to find out what mysterious contributor gave the $100,000. As long as the America First Committee is permitted to incite racial hatred of American citizens and to carry on its pro-Hitler activities, such gangster outfits as the Klan will receive encouragement and new life.

34-1941

GENERAL

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

KKK Leader Reveals Aid to America First

OCT 19 1941

By Jack Young
(Special to the Sunday Worker)

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 18.—Ku Klux Klan participation with German-American Bundists in pushing America First activities in Southern California, had been revealed here today by William H. Sahli, KKK organizer on a commission basis.

OCT 19 1941

Sahli stormed in upon the state assembly's "baby Dies Committee" hearing in the state building here to "exonerate" Baron Frederick Van Meter, charged with being a Bund storm trooper by the American Legion.

Because of contradictions in Van Meter's testimony before the committee, it had moved to refer his case to the county grand jury and the district attorney for possible perjury proceedings.

AMERICA FIRST MEMBER

The story starts on the afternoon of the third day of the hearings when Van Meter was sworn in as a witness.

Prominent upon the coat lapel of the tall, lanky, sullen Van Meter was an America First button, and in a whining voice he said he was a member of that organization.

Van Meter testified that he was a regular visitor at the Deutches Haus, Los Angles Bund headquarters, and knew Hermann Max Schwinn and Hans Dieble, local Bund leaders.

Shown a photograph of America First pickets at the Wendell Willkie Hollywood Bowl meeting here last July, Van Meter identified himself and his brother, William, carrying placards.

OCT 19 1941

Also present, he said, were his brothers Jim and Dan.

America First officials didn't like that one bit. Previous testimony had established that James and Joan McBride, also Bundists, had been in that same picket line.

So the America Firsters got Committee Chairman Jack B. Tenney to swear in Alfred J. L. Wesling, employe in the Los Angeles America First office.

Wesling swore that Van Meter had never been a member "as far as our records show."

Miss Kathleen Barry, another America First employe, swore the same thing.

OCT 19 1941

Assemblyman Nelson Dilworth then moved that Van Meter's case be referred to the grand jury and district attorney. Assemblyman Hugh Burns seconded the motion. It carried unanimously and the America Firsters relaxed. But after a recess, Sahli stood in the rear of the hearing room, boomed out a demand that he be heard with regard to Van Meter.

Standing well over six feet, weighing more than 200 pounds, Sahli beamed gratification as photographers grabbed his picture while he was being sworn.

"America First has slipped up on this thing," Sahli said. "I have been fighting for America First myself."

Sahli asserted that America First's only record of membership is a card in a file and that both his and Van Meter's cards had been taken out and destroyed.

"I have known Van Meter to be an America First member since April," said Sahli, adding that other members of the Van Meter family also had been America Firsters, ushering and taking collections at meetings.

OCT 19 1941

KKK AFFILIATION

Asked if he belonged to any organizations, Sahli handed out red, white and blue cards to the assemblymen.

On one side, they said, "America —Love It Or Leave It;"

On the other was: "Act American; Be American; Think American; Talk American; The Ku Klux Klan Is American, P. O. Box 1055, Los Angeles, California."

Sahli said his official position with the KKK was an organizer, but he refused to state how many members the Klan has in this area.

"One thing I want to tell you," Sahli stated, "the America First has no anti-Jewish program—neither has the Ku Klux Klan—they have an Americanism program."

Thundering that the United States should have "no foreign alienism of any sort," Sahli proudly stated that KKK membership was limited to "white, gentile, Christians."

OCT 19 1941

Jews and Catholics could become Klansmen "if they become a Christian—an American Christian with no European entanglements," he declared.

"Does the Klan approve of force and violence?" asked Assemblyman Dilworth.

"Positively not," said Sahli. "Man power where man power is necessary, but not violence."

Smacking a beefy hand on the witness table, Sahli avowed that he was "getting sick and tired of the pussyfooting around" of other groups calling themselves American.

OCT 19 1941

"I could take on your whole bunch one at a time," he snarled, making a sweeping gesture with his hand to include all the assemblymen and cops in the room.

"When I see things not going according to Hoyle, I smack them down!" Sahli concluded. He was excused.

Nation
New York, N. Y.

THE KU KLUX KLAN is currently distributing reprints of a series of articles on The International Jew which appeared originally in Henry Ford's Dearborn *Independent*. At the same time a recent issue of the *Fiery Cross*, official Klan paper, says "the Klan is flattered" because the Jewish War Veterans "have followed the lead of the Klan in adopting its slogan, Unity and Victory."

NOV 15 1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

KKK Sabotage Drive Exposed, Plot to Cripple Auto Plants

OCT 26 1941

CIO Union Battles 5th Column Aim on Production

[The writer will furnish to the proper authorities the names of every Klansman and fifth column agent (referred to in the following story by initial only) and will provide proof of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, in cooperation with America First agents, to disrupt and sabotage the great plants now under contract with the CIO United Automobile Workers, and engaged in vital national defense contracts.]

OCT 26 1941

By William Allan
(Special to the Sunday Worker)

DETROIT, Oct. 25.—The timeliness of the warning President R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers has issued on attempts by Ku Klux Klan forces to penetrate the union was fully borne out here as evidence showed that this anti-UAW conspiracy is closely tied in with the program of the appeasers.

Recent wildcat stoppages in defense plants too can be traced to the work of Klansman.

Investigation disclosed that the preliminary details of the anti-union move were hatched at the Michigan State annual convention of the KKK, held on May 18, at Danish Brotherhood Temple.

Imperial Grand Wizard James A. Collescott who addressed the convention called for the formation of a Gestapo. This agency of the invisible empire of lynchers, Negro, Jew, Catholic and labor baiters, was launched and named "The Federation of American Industrial Councils."

OUTLINE GESTAPO PROGRAM

Outlining the program for this organization as conceived by the Imperial Kloncilium (national executive body of the hooded order) Colescott drew a picture of stoolpigeon work, disruption and dissemination of the poisonous program of the KKK within the ranks of the union.

"Get into every local, department, division and plant," he exhorted his listeners. "Communism is everywhere among the auto workers. The UAW and CIO leaders are all Reds. We must Americanize them through Kluxing every white, Protestant, Gentile American."

OCT 26 1941

The Hitler technique is clearly evident; a drive upon the powerful auto union under the guise of saving it from "communism."

This latest anti-UAW movement comes after several years of effort to smash the growing union have failed. The attempt through Homer Martin, former president, now Ford agent, who had the assistance of the Lovestoneites, has failed. Subsequent introduction of another wave of factionalism also failed. The persistant efforts too of the Ford Service Department and its terror methods have failed to dam the tide of unionism. Strikebreaking attempts in the Chrysler, General Motor and Ford strike have been defeated.

THE KLAN'S ALLIES

All the defeated disruptive and disgruntled elements — red-baiters, Ford servicemen, spies, Negro and Foreign-born baiters, anti-Semites, have now become the fertile ground upon which the KKK seeks to build its anti-labor Gestapo.

An investigation by the Sunday Worker on the operations of the KKK since it set out to form the "Federation of American Industrial Councils," disclosed that the work here is coordinated by a man titled "Field Marshal" who bears the initials of H.H. (name can be furnished to proper authorities on request). He in turn, has under him colonels, majors, captains and lieutenants in the plants. In the plant departments there are sergeants, corporals and privates.

Through this machinery, information blanks have been distributed and collected for a central coordination. Those blanks, entitled "Bureau of Information," provide for the person's address, name, where and in what department employed, whether citizen, what church, where born, politics and other such information.

This Gestapo chain is not only to provide information to the top men of the invisible empire, but is also to work as a trained force for disruption within union meetings.

5TH COLUMN TRAINING

Three nights a week at a hall on West Forest Ave., where the main Klavern is located, under the guise of a social club, classes are conducted on parliamentary procedure, how to operate and disrupt on a union floor, spot "reds" and "un-Americans."

This fifth column is already showing some signs of adeptness at sabotaging labor's unity. The Chrysler, Dodge and Packard units of the KKK meet every Saturday morning at the Forest Ave. headquarters. The Briggs Hudson and Chevrolet Gear and Axle units meet from time to time at a hall on East Jefferson Ave., which is known to the author and can be given to the proper authorities.

The most active man in the Chevrolet unit is a man initialed A. H., an executive (name can be furnished). The Klan leader in the Briggs unit is initialed G. W. (his name too could be furnished). In Packard the name is B.

Already there is evidence that the Hitlerite hand of the appeasers is using the KKK machinery to disrupt plant production through wildcat stoppages.

OCT 26 1941

HAND OF THE KLAN

Briggs Local 22 has been gripped by a sharp internal struggle in recent weeks. Sixteen wildcat stoppages took place at the main Mack Ave. plant. So serious has the situation become that the UAW had to place the local under a special administrator, Regional director Melvin Bishop.

The hand of the Klansmen in the stoppages affecting vital defense production, was quite obvious. This has gone to the point that a physical assault was attempted upon Bishop.

At the Packard local, one of the most progressive in the UAW, we witness the strange spectacle of passage of on appeasement resolution complying perfectly with the America First line. The elements who introduced the resolution find themselves in the embarrassing position of being supported by the Klan.

At the Ford River Rouge plant, B. Building, the workers were suddenly startled by a wildcat strike two weeks ago. For three quarters of an hour no one knew why the stoppage was called. This is the building which is notorious for the frequent discovery of anti-Semitic signs on the walls and where a nest of red-baiters is operating.

AMERICA FIRST TIEUP

American First propaganda is freely disseminated throughout the Ford plant. Suddenly there has developed inspired talk of "rank and file autonomy" which in this instance means opposition to the union's leadership.

The Ford Motor Co. has now engaged a new expert on stoolpigeon work: none other than Benjamin Gitlow, Dies Committee witness, to head its "Americanization" department. He is to be assisted by Zigmund Dobruzinski, who was expelled from Local 205 UAW as a stoolpigeon. Gitlow, according to reports, will advise the company on an "Americanization" drive. Another notorious stoolpigeon is William Nowell.

OCT 26 1941

The Ford anti-union aparatus has long been a base for activities of the KKK. Today, this takes on particular significance. Fused with the America First Line, is the obvious object of so disrupting the union that when contract renewal time arrives, the company would be in a position to attempt another showdown with the union.

A partial list of meeting places of Klansmen gives further indication of the scope of their activity here.

WHERE THE KLAN MEETS

Southern Oakland County, on 13 Mile Road Clawson, Mich.; Detroit Unit 167, of the Klan, meets at a West Forest Ave., others known to the general public as a "social club;" Macomb Klan. No. 44 on 14 mile Road; Pontiac unit, at a S. Paddock St., address Pontiac, Mich. These are used only for closed meetings. [All addresses are known to the author].

Other meeting places of the Klan, used for "invitational meetings" are at a house at E. Eight Mile Road, Detroit; another at Nine Mile Road on E. Jefferson; on Waterman St. on Detroit's West Side (this is where most of the Ford Klansmen meet.)

The Klan has organizations upstate in Flint, Pontiac, Benton Harbor, Three Rivers, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, and Constantine. At Ferndale, where the fiery cross has been burned and Negro families were driven out on several occassions headquarters are on Woodward Ave., (exact address known to the author). This is the meeting place of what is known as the Southern Oakland county Unit.

The Chrysler, Dodge, Packard units of the Klan meet each Saturday morning at the Klavern headquarters West Forest Ave. Detroit.

The Grand Dragon for Michigan is one C. S. (name can be furnished).

OCT 26 1941

"There is no room within the ranks of the UAW-CIO for the Klu Klux Klan or its activities. Efforts of the Klan to inject itself into our local unions should be resisted to the utmost by our membership and officers," Thomas disclosed.

"The UAW-CIO is an American organization and makes no distinction because of race, color, creed. It will not tolerate Colescott and his associated bigots who if they had their way, would divide our nation and our union into warring religious groups.

"My advice to Colescott is to pack his bag. Detroit does not need him," Thomas concluded.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Link Nazis in Revival of Ku Klux

OCT 4 1941

(Special to the AFRO)

LOS ANGELES—Is Nazi money backing the revival of the Ku Klux Klan in the United States?

An emphatic affirmative reply to the foregoing query is obvious from startling disclosures recently made by News Research Service, Inc. (NRS) of this city which reports a bold attempt of the Nazis to buy out the Klan for $75,000.

Gets $100,000 Gift

As though this were not enough, the Klan, now in an undercover nation-wide campaign for a million dollar fund, has announced that it has been given $100,000 of this amount, but does not disclose the donor.

Again a question arises: Who gave the Klan this money? Informed quarters are disposed to believe that the source of this money and the $75,000 offer for the "purchase" of the hooded order are one and the same.

In reporting the $75,000 offer, NRS reports that a Mrs. Leslie Fry, a German agent, sent Henry D. Allen to Atlanta to talk to Hiram W. Evans, then head of the Klan, but Evans is reported to have said that he "was not interested in the idea."

Seek Internal Disorder

NRS then commented that the FBI in Washington had in its possession evidence that re-establishment of the Klan in the United States represents "a further link in Nazi Germany's preparations for creating internal troubles within the United States which will prevent this government from hindering the Hitler-Mussolini determination to wipe democracy from the world."

The Klan's paper, "Fiery Cross," is demanding that Catholic publications be banned from army camps. With the America First Committee apparently centering its attack upon Jews, close observers foresee a later, joint attack upon colored Americans as the final step in the Nazi strategy.

Women Taking Part

From widely separated sections of the nation come reports of renewed Klan activity. Crosses have been burned in New Jersey, Florida, Ohio, Michigan, South Carolina, Oklahoma and other States and the growth of women's auxiliaries (Chapters of Klanswomen) has been reported on every hand where the men have organized.

Drawing a conclusion from this recent, widespread Klan activity, NRS says:

"While every decent and loyal American recognizes the need of national unity, the Klan works in the dark of night, spreading terror and confusion. Klansmen preach hatred and intolerance; they chastise the Jews, Catholics and colored people.

"These counterfeit patriots play directly into the hands of the Axis bosses who never make a secret of the fact that America will be taken, not by invasion, but by borers from within. It will be an inside job."

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.

Where Courage Is Essential

NOV 29 1941

BY CARROLL KILPATRICK
Washington Bureau, The Birmingham Age-Herald-News

It goes without saying that any man who would undertake to arbitrate the union dispute in the captive coal mine case is a man of extraordinary courage. That designation applies in an unusual degree to Dr. John R. Steelman, whose decision will be decisive in settling the thorny controversy over the union shop for the nation's captive coal miners.

One day early in the 1930's, while Dr. Steelman was an unknown professor of sociology and economics at Alabama College in Montevallo, he showed his courage in the presence of five august and hooded representatives of the Ku Klux Klan.

Dr. Steelman had gone on a trip to nearby Tuscaloosa, where there had been a number of lynchings and where the Klan had been rampant. He arrived in town late one afternoon, went to a library for a few minutes, then to a barber shop for a shoeshine and finally to a movie.

He returned to his hotel about 11 o'clock and went to bed. A little while later he was awakened by a delegation of hooded brethren from the Klan. They informed the sleepy professor that he was considered a suspicious visitor, and demanded to search his room.

Dr. Steelman told them he would never allow any such thing, but that if they desired he would show them everything he had in the room.

He thereupon proceeded to open his suitcase and brief case to the inspection of the KKK. It so happened that in the brief case were final term papers written by members of his sociology class. One of the papers, in praise of the New Deal, sounded terribly suspicious, and one of the klansmen informed the professor that he was guilty of harboring subversive propaganda.

NOV 28 1941

Dr. Steelman stood his ground. Or rather he stood in front of the only electric fan in the room while the de-decked and hooded visitors grew warmer and warmer and stickier and stickier in the crowded and stuffy room. Finally, the leader of the troopers could stand it no longer.

"We'll leave you alone this time," he said to Dr. Steelman, whose name and profession not one of the visitors knew.

But as they started out of the room they remembered that the professor's automobile was parked outside, and they were afraid their colleagues waiting downstairs would not be satisfied until they had examined it.

Dr. Steelman agreed to open his car to their inspection on one condition: that all the klansmen would afterwards proceed to the nearby railroad platform and there listen to an address, which he would deliver in his best professorial style.

They agreed to this provision, and, after a search of the car, which produced no incriminating evidence, marched to the station. There they listened to Dr. Steelman deliver a lecture the like of which they had never heard in all their lives. He literally withered them with his tongue lashing against wearing a hood and barging in on other people's business.

When he had finished, he looked his silent audience over from head to foot, turned on his heel and went back to his bed.

That was Dr. Steelman's last visit with the Klan.

NOV 2-0 1941

It is such courage and perseverance that have made him the leading arbitrator in the country. His friends describe him as a "hardy, friendly countryman, who has one of the best and most incisive minds in America."

He has been known to go to White House dinners with a black tie and dishevelled suit, while everyone else was wearing white ties. And where most people had white handkerchiefs carefully displayed, Dr. Steelman would have a half dozen protruding pencils and a fountain pen.

This man who today has one of the most difficult of all decisions to make was born 41 years ago in Thornton, Ark. He was educated at Henderson Brown College in Arkansas, took his master's degree from Vanderbilt and his doctorate from the University of North Carolina.

NOV 28 1941

Under Howard W. Odum he learned economics and labor relations. For six years he taught sociology and economics at Montevallo, where he had been invited to teach by Dr. O. C. Carmichael, then president of Alabama College and now chancellor of Vanderbilt.

NOV 28 19

It was at Montevallo that Secretary of Labor Perkins met Dr. Steelman in 1934. She immediately persuaded him to join the Conciliation Service in the Department of Labor.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Secretary Of Treasury Morgenthau Says Kluxers Are Abusing Defense Program

Jew (34)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 23.—Asked at his press conference whether he had seen reports that the Ku Klux Klan has been printing the slogan, "Today's Defense Is Tomorrow's Security—Buy Defense Bonds Now," on membership application blanks, Henry Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury, said he had not heard of the incident.

OCT 25 1941

"If what you say is true,' he replied, "it is evident that some organizations are abusing and debasing our defense program."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

NOV 2

Compromises Are Out Of Order

The defense and praise of the terrorist order, the Ku-Klux Klan, by a member of the Jewish race, Attorney Ike Wengrow, during a clemency hearing for six Klansmen floggers before Governor Talmadge in Atlanta Tuesday, was indeed a shameful spectacle. Not only because of the natural antipathy Negroes have for an order which has been foremost in the suppression of its ideals and aspirations since Reconstruction Days, but because members of the Jewish race have also been made to suffer the tortures of the minority.

It is encouraging to note that the Jewish "Klan-defender" has been denounced and denied by members of his race, especially one of their most outstanding leaders, who followed in the wake of a scathing denunciation by a leading white churchman.

NOV 27 1941

This is no time for compromises to organizations which shape up like those of Hitler and Mussolini which are largely responsible for the mess the world is in today. Intolerance, injustice, greed and persecution, among the other ills of the present world, must be done away with, once and for all time. Certainly the victims of those groups which delight in oppressing them can little afford to line up with their natural enemies. All forces for good must unite their effort or be conquered by the forces of evil.

34-1941
Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

Ku Klux Democracy Functions In Georgia

The Ku Klux Klan is very active these days and no one seems to be giving serious attention to the evil consequences of their conduct. Down in Atlanta, Georgia, last week two professors in Georgia university were ousted, charged by the governor and regents with the horrible crime of practicing racial equality.

It is another case like we recently had in Oklahoma. The only difference is that the Georgia whites were tried before a board of regents, while in Oklahoma the defendants were tried in a legal court of record.

In both instances the crime charged was that of reading books, possession of books, and thinking, which is a violation of Ku Klux theory of social organization.

The evidence against Dean Walter Cocking, of Georgia university, was accumulated and piled up in a convincing way before Governor Talmadge's hand-picked board of regents by reading extracts from "Brown America," a book published by the Rosenwald Fund, and other pamphlets issued by the Southern Interracial Commission.

The regents at the same time made short order of Dr. Pittman of the Statesboro college, when it was shown that a picture of a Negro in the nude had been found in the library of the white college. We presume that this is notice to all Negro presidents of land grant colleges in the South, that if the nude picture of a white person is found in a Negro library the Klan is going to make short meter of the Negro president.

With this novel record established in a false gesture at correcting the nation's morals, the Klan should get busy and suppress the July issue of "Gags," which carries a picture of a nude white woman covering the entire front and back page. It would be just too bad if someone not liking a Negro college president should drop a copy of "Gags" down in a tax-supported Negro college just before the white regents arrived for inspection.

But the Georgia regents seemingly overlooked a very important matter, and one having to do with fundamental democracy and freedom. Tommie Banks, a servant in the Cocking home, testified during the hearing that he had been kidnaped and taken to Ku Klux headquarters, and following his refusal to steal private papers from the home of Dean Cocking, was threatened bodily harm.

We wonder whether one can see in this act of the Klan the American "Gestapo" functioning. There is of course the threat of unlawful inquisition and terrorism when government by law is substituted with government by men. Laws represent the considered and well balanced judgment of organized society, while Gestapo rule represents the whim and caprice of a vicious minority.

The fact that Dean Cocking is a white man did not prevent the Klan from denying him the guarantees of the "search and seizure" clause of the federal constitution. What a grand society we will have when the Klan has planted a "Peeping Tom" in every home!

Following the kidnaping of the Lindburgh baby, Congress swiftly passed the kidnaping bill, but we suppose the safeguards of this legislation were not intended to surround a Georgia black man, when held and terrorized in the hands of the Klan.

In all seriousness, citizens of the nation ought to see in such ugly incidents the drift America has been making away from democracy. We talk about the "freedoms" which we enjoy in this nation, but in most instances we are talking about what we have lost, and not what we have preserved.

The Klan and those who have the ruthless, lawless spirit of the Klan have for years kicked open the doors of thousands of Negro homes below the Mason and Dixon Line, but unfortunately we never realize what is happening until retributive justice visits upon the aggressor the evil consequences of aggression. This is what is happening in the South today with the "wire tapping" efforts and the daily violations of privacy and security of white people's homes.

It was Shakespeare who had one of his characters in "The Merchant of Venice" to say:

"You take my house, when you do take the prop that doth sustain my house;
You take my life, when you do take the means by which I live."

Day in and day out we look about over America observing the denial of the right to think, to speak, to read, or to act. Of course the denial is not always made from the end of a gun, but especially in the case of the Georgia professors and the professors recently lambasted by the Oklahoma legislature, we see denial made through the threat to deprive such liberals of an opportunity to make a livelihood. When you take away the means by which people live, there is not much need of doing anything else to them. Such persons have been destroyed.

Here's one of the paragraphs read by one of the Georgia regents from "Brown America," and the major ground upon which demand was made for dismissal because "Brown America" was in the Georgia university library:

"The South is coming to realize the cost of prejudice is great in maintenance of two school systems, two libraries, two-section waiting rooms, separate passenger cars and white and colored nurses and county welfare agents."

If there are people in the South so bigoted and unreasoning not to realize the truthfulness of the above statement, God pity the South.

The Bible speaks of the people who having eyes see not, and having ears hear not. When the regent who read the paragraph from "Brown America" had concluded reading he immediately began to shout about someone attempting to bring about intermarriage. "They want intermarriage," he shouted.

Anyone with a thimbleful of brains knows that the author of that paragraph dealing with the ruinous dual economy of the South was not thinking in terms of intermarriage; such an individual was thinking about democracy and a method by which the South might regain its prosperity.

But if it is insisted that we interpret the statement from the standpoint of intermarriage we suggest that marriage between the black and the white race is a far more moral program in the realm of humany decency than what is now, and has for three centuries been going on in the South. The whole thing resolves itself into this question: Shall we continue to have half-white bastard children in Dixie, or shall we prevent illegitimacy by compelling white men to give their names to the offspring of white men's lust for black women? The issue is solely one of decency or indecency. It is upon this solid ground we stand to challenge the morality of the Klan.

Everyone who knows anything about the mixing of races knows that in all history amalgamation has not flowed from the weak to the strong; it flows from the strong to the weak, so that when Georgia's governor talks about the mixing of the races in this dear old U. S. A., he is talking about a matter with which white people control and regarding which a minority group can take no effective action. Every time one hears white people charging Negroes with the crime of amalgamation one thinks of the man who stole the money and ran down the street yelling "Stop thief!"

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Klansmen To Stage Parade and Rally

In full robe, and with torches blazing—but minus masks—East Point's Ku Klux Klan will parade through southwest Fulton county tonight and stage its first public demonstration in two years, a "patriotic rally," on the tennis courts opposite the city hall.

Starting at 7:30 o'clock from the Klan hall in East Point, the Klansmen will march to College Park, then to Hapeville, and back to East Point, where they hope to hear a speech by Ben Adams, grand dragon, from Greenville, South Carolina.

It will be the first public rally since 17 members of a Klan "wrecking crew" were named in flogging indictments early in 1940.

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Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Flogging Trial Scheduled To Open Tuesday

SEP 28 1941

W. W. Scarborough Case Will Be Heard by Judge Hendrix.

W. W. Scarborough, former deputy sheriff and exalted cyclops of the East Point Ku Klux Klan, is scheduled to face a jury in superior court Tuesday on a flogging charge growing out of night-riding terrorism in south Fulton county.

A previous hearing resulted in a mistrial.

Judge Walter C. Hendrix will preside, and Daniel Duke, assistant solicitor general who convicted numerous other members of the Klan, will prosecute the case.

Scarborough will be defended by Harold Sheats, former head of the same Klan and now an assistant to County Attorney Hughes Spalding, and by John Hudson, who served as attorney for Dan Eidson and others convicted as members of the Klan's "wrecking crew."

SEP 29

A former East Point policeman, Bailey Cawthon, kinsman of the convicted Henry Cawthon, alleged chief of the "wrecking crew," will be tried Thursday on a flogging charge before Judge Virlyn B. Moore in superior court. Duke will prosecute and H. A. Allen defend.

Also scheduled for trial during the week is Mrs. Bernice Rogers, who shot and killed Mrs. Dena Campbell in an automobile in front of her Forsyth street restaurant on the night of July 8.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Early Break Foreseen in Flogging Case

OCT 3 1941

Relatives of Convicted Men Understood To Be Growing Restless.

An early break was foreseen yesterday in the mystery of the fatal flogging of Ike Gaston, East Point barber, near Ben Hill on the snowy night of March 7, 1940.

Relatives of some of the eight men convicted as members of the East Point Ku Klux Klan "wrecking crew" were understood to be growing restive over recent developments and to be urging the convicted terrorists to tell what they may know about Gaston's severe beating and abandonment in a frosty depression of an open field.

It was known that Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke had visited certain unascertained relatives during the day and suggested advantages which might accrue to those who "sang" first.

Duke Noncommittal.

Duke declined to reveal where he had been when he returned to the courthouse after several hours' absence and was reluctant to discuss impending developments. In other well-informed quarters, however, definite action was anticipated

OCT 3 1941

Indictments against Bailey Cawthon, former East Point policeman, and Charlie Watts, a West End filling station operator, charging them with flogging, were nolle prossed on Duke's motion yesterday by Judge Virlyn B. Moore.

Duke declared that Watts had been mistakenly identified by witnesses before the grand jury and exonerated by state's witnesses, and that the Cawthon case was too weak, lacking the promised testimony of Floyd I. Lee, one of the eight convicted.

Scarborough Testimony.

Recalling the acquittal Tuesday of W. W. Scarborough, former exalted cyclops of the East Point Klan, Duke told the court Scarborough had told the jury at his first trial that, while a deputy sheriff, he had ordered Klan records to be burned as a subpoena duces tecum for them was about to be served.

Four of the eight convicted Klansmen, Henry Cawthon, Dan Eidson, Walter Forster and W. T. Walton, are serving prison terms. Four others, Lee, Herb Eidson, George Cameron and Raymond Bryan, are at liberty pending completion of appeals.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Flog Jury Frees Scarborough In Nocturnal Beating at Dump

Former Deputy Sheriff and Ex-Cyclops of Klan Acquitted Few Hours After Case Is Given to His Peers.

OCT 1 1941

W. W. Scarborough, former deputy sheriff, was acquitted last night by a superior court jury of a flogging charge growing out of terroristic night-riding activities in south Fulton county, of which he firmly claimed innocence.

The case was received in late afternoon after a bitter contest between defense and prosecution. Judge Walter C. Hendrix presided.

Scarborough was charged with taking part in the beating of Louis Brown, of East Point, in Conley woods near the East Point city dump on the night of June 4, 1937. Two confessed participants, W. C. Bishop and Luke Trimble, secretary of the East Point Klan, declared Scarborough, then the exalted cyclops, was present.

An attack upon Defense Counsel Harold Sheats came from Assistant Solicitor General Daniel Duke in his address to the jury. Frequently he called the name of Sheats, also a former exalted cyclops of the Klan, and quoted Sheats' earlier declaration to the jury that — if Brown had been flogged — the beating apparently "did him good."

At one point Duke declared:

"Something came out of Sheats' mind that was unconscious, something that is opposed to everything American. It is a philosophy that is a perversion of everything that we have developed in this country, a philosophy of Fascism and Communism. There are few minds as narrow as those of Sheats and Scarborough."

Both Sheats and John Hudson, who also defended Scarborough, attacked the testimony of Bishop and Trimble — frequent prosecution witnesses in flogging trials — as unworthy of belief. Hudson insisted their stories were preposterous, while Sheats pointed out that, though indicted, neither had been brought to trial.

SEP 1 1941

The direct charge was made by Assistant Solicitor General E. E. Andrews that the East Point police department had failed to cooperate in efforts to track down the floggers. He specifically asserted that Bailey Cawthon, former East Point policeman, suggested the beating of Brown and led the floggers to the scene. Cawthon, a relative of the convicted Henry Cawthon, is scheduled for trial Thursday on a flogging charge.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Ex-Klan Chief Scarborough Is Reinstated

OCT 16 1941

Aldredge Lifts Suspension Imposed After Flog Indictments.

Warren W. Scarborough has been restored to duty as a deputy sheriff.

Sheriff Mott Aldredge admitted yesterday he had reinstated the former East Point Ku Klux Klan cyclops whom he suspended in March, 1940, when indictments were returned, charging Scarborough participated in South Fulton floggings.

"I put him back to work last Saturday," said the sheriff.

It was learned that Scarborough, whose return to duty was protested by the family of Ike Gaston, victim of a fatal flogging, was doing night duty at the Fulton Tower, reporting at 11:30 o'clock and serving until 7:30 o'clock.

OCT 16 1941

The flat charge that Aldredge was "hiding" Scarborough with this assignment was made by Daniel Duke, assistant solicitor general who prosecuted him in superior court. Scarborough was acquitted after two mistrials.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

More Muddy Thinking

Governor Talmadge once more revealed a peculiar mental twist when he expressed sympathy with the night-riding Klan floggers of East Point.

NOV 21 1941

How any decent citizen can express such a feeling is beyond comprehension. That the Governor of a state would admit to similar activities is too much even in a state which has been forced to accept so much that is shocking from him.

He indicated he would issue a parole—going so far as to instruct the attorney for Dan Eidson to have a number of preachers prepared to "speak for these men."

NOV 21 1941

Truly is the state of Georgia wallowing in the sloughs of error.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

NOV 25 1941

Constitution Staff Photo—Bill Mason.

VICTIM'S WIFE—Life has not been easy for Mrs. Ike Gaston, wife of the East Point barber flogged to death by night riders nearly two years ago. And the story of what she has suffered, working to support her three children, is not a pretty story. Small wonder, then, that she does not believe the Governor today should grant parole to three men convicted in other floggings which Ike Gaston's death brought to light.

NOV 25 1941

Job Necessary Now, So Widow Of Gaston Can't Attend Hearing

NOV 25 1941

Her Husband Fatally Beaten by 'Night Riders,' She Is Opposed to Governor Extending Clemency to Trio of Convicted Floggers.

By HAROLD MARTIN.

The widow of Ike Gaston can't go down to the Governor's office today to plead with him not to free the three convicted floggers who are appealing for parole.

She's got a job, at last, and she wants to stay with that job, because she hasn't had it long and she needs it desperately.

But if she could go down there and tell the Governor what her life has been since that cold March morning nearly two years ago when the bruised and lash-marked body of her husband was found, she doesn't think the Governor would have the heart to free a man who had used the lash upon the body of another.

It hasn't been said that Dan Eidson, W. T. Walton, and Walter Foster, the three appealing for parole today, were the men who beat Ike Gaston to a blody pulp and left him to die upon a bleak hill near East Point.

But it has been said, and proved, that the punishment that killed Ike Gaston, they gave to other men in lesser degree. And what happened to Ike Gaston might have happened to the men they flogged.

And the wives of these men, and their children might have known the hardship and the heartbreak that the widow and the children of Ike Gaston have known.

It isn't a pretty story, and the men who killed Ike Gaston, whoever they are, may feel a pang of remorse at reading it—if there is room for remorse in the brutal hearts of such as they.

There were the three of them left when Ike Gaston was gone. His wife, Louise, pretty, brown-haired, blue-eyed, young. His sons, Billy, the handsome one, and Bobby, the sturdy one, and Katherine Louise, the baby, who then was only six weeks old.

Their life hadn't been easy before. Ike Gaston was not what you would call a good provider. She couldn't help it then, and she can't help it now.

She doesn't hate the men who killed him. She just says, if she had been there, they would have had to kill her too.

And she doesn't hate the men who are pleading for parole today. She just doesn't believe that on this earth is the place for them to receive mercy and forgiveness.

She thinks they should suffer, here, for the things they've done. And their pleas for mercy and forgiveness should be directed to a higher power than a governor.

He drank too much. He stayed drunk for two weeks sometimes. But he was all they had, and when he was sober he was in his way, a good husband to his wife and a good father to his children.

But after he was gone it was worse. Her husband killed, her three children dependent upon her for support, Mrs. Gaston broke under the strain. Dan Duke, and the other boys around the solicitor's office helped her as best they could. They got medical attention for her. They got her, finally, on relief.

But that was meager living, and there were times when they were cold, and hungry and sick. There were times when all the food in the house was a little flour, which Mrs. Gaston mixed into a batter without lard or salt, and fed to her children. Just miserable scraps of bread, to fill their bellies so nobody would know they really hadn't been fed.

She didn't beg. She didn't complain. She just tried to get well so she could go to work. So she could get her children away from the neighborhood where they were known. She took a fierce pride in keeping her head up. She sent her children to school and Sunday school, and she went to church herself—to the Grant Park Baptist church, whose people had been kind to her.

NOV 25 1941

Sent Baby Away.

But she couldn't make it. She had to send her baby away. Her family has the little girl now, in Boston, and she misses her every hour, and every minute of every hour. That's the hardest part, the child being gone.

She thinks of sending for her, of bringing her home. But she sees the two little boys, Bobby, 8, and Billy, 11, needing things, needing shoes and sox and sweaters and warm underwear, and she knows its best for the little girl to stay away.

She's well now, and working. And the people in the laundry where she works are kind to her. They don't ever mention to her what has happened, though they all know who she is. And once a week the boss lets her bring in her children s things to wash, so they'll have clean clothes to wear to school.

She doesn't go out, for strangely, with all his faults she loved Ike Gaston, and still treasures his memory. She knew his weaknesses, and she still loved him.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Flog Victim Protests Trio's Clemency Plea

Toney Writes Governor of Beating Received in 1938.

NOV 24 1941

"God forbid the day in this land when the chief executive of a state will play cheap politics with a group of cowardly 'floggers,'" P. S. Toney, Scottdale mill worker, whose testimony aided in the prosecution of three convicted floggers, Dan Edison, W. T. Walton and Walter Forster, wrote the

Governor yesterday in protesting executive clemency for the three men.

Writing virtually on the eve of a hearing for the three convicted floggers, scheduled to be heard tomorrow morning by the Governor, Toney, a victim of flogging outrages in which one man, Ike Gaston, was beaten to death March 7, 1940, outlined his past life to the Governor and gave a vivid account of his ordeal.

Toney disclosed in his letter that he went to work in a cotton mill at the age of 14, worked 23 years at the same mill, and had always tried to live a Christian life.

The letter also revealed that Toneys' assailants, which included masked men, used false warrants and told him that if he "ever attended another union meeting they would kill him."

Eidson was sentenced to one year on the public works, six months in jail and fined $1,000, following conviction on the charge of flogging Toney. Forster was convicted on one count of flogging in connection with another mill worker, Bert Harris, and was sentenced to a year on the public works, six months in jail and fined $1,000. Walton was convicted on three counts in connection with the Toney flogging, the Harris flogging and the flogging of E. K. Ramage, and was sentenced to three years on the public works, 18 months in jail and fined $3,000.

The convicted men, before beginning service of their sentences last July 11, made motions for new trials, which the trial judge declined to grant; appealed their cases to the Georgia court of appeals, which affirmed their convictions; made motions for rehearing before the court of appeals, which was also declined, and then sought parole before the Georgia Prison and Parole Board, which declined to grant them parole.

Governor 'Sympathetic.'

Last week they appealed to the Governor for executive clemency. The Governor at that time said he "sympathized" with them, and said that "they thought they were doing right."

The office of the solicitor general of Fulton county pointed out yesterday that kidnaping indictments are still pending against the three convicted men.

Toney's letter to the Governor follows:

"Please accept this as a protest against any clemency for Dan Eidson, Walter Forster or W. T. Walton.

"I noticed in the newspaper that you were going to have a hearing on Tuesday, November 25, 1941, to determine whether clemency should be extended to any of the above men.

"I am P. S. Toney, one of the victims of this un-American practice, and I want to call your attention to a few things.

Member of Church.

"I went to work in a cotton mill when I was 14 years old and worked at the same mill for 23 years. I recently quit to take a job as a guard at a government warehouse. I married when I was a young man. My wife and I have two fine children. I own my home. I am an active member of the Methodist church. I have tried to make a good citizen and lead a Christian life.

"I have educated one of my children and am educating the other one. I want them to be good citizens and live under the influence of Christian principles.

"Governor, these men came to my home on the night of August 1, 1938, just as I got off from work. They came to my door and said they were officers of the law, and they showed me a warrant for my arrest. I knew I had committed no crime, and believing them to be officers I voluntarily went with them, thinking I was going to Decatur.

"I was carried to the dump in East Point, Ga. I was hit with a blackjack and handcuffed. My clothes were pulled down and I was beaten into unconsciousness with two large leather straps. While they had me down, one of them kicked me in the mouth and put dirt into my mouth and eyes.

"Left to Die."

"They cursed me and said that if I ever attended another union meeting they would kill me. I was left to die, and but for the grace of God I would be dead. All of these men whom you expressed sympathy for were in my flogging, according to the jury that tried them.

"There were more of them, but you are not considering their case.

"I am an American citizen and have a right to expect the protection of the law.

"I did not take the law into my own hands even after I discovered who the men were who carried me from the bosom of my family by deceitful means. I looked to the law. I had faith in the American way of life and believed that the forces of law and order would prevail. I believe that now, Governor.

"I am a poor, humble workingman, and I still believe that the Governor of a great state will see that the laws are executed. I do not believe you understood the nature of these offenses when you said, 'They thought they were doing the right thing.'

"I and many other poor, humble persons are looking to you, Governor. God forbid the day in this land when the chief executive of a state will play cheap politics with a group of cowardly 'floggers.'"

The letter closed with "Trusting that justice will be done on Tuesday."

Nation
New York, N. Y.

ALTHOUGH PUBLIC PRESSURE WAS STRONG

enough to force him to refuse pardon to six convicted floggers, Governor Talmadge seems to think that the imprisoned members of the Ku Klux Klan merit comparison with Saul of Tarsus. In considering the parole of these men, whose only crime was the flogging to death of a local drunk and the lashing of a union organizer, Talmadge took to the Scriptures and pointed out that the great evangelist had once been a flogger of slaves. St. Paul may have been a pretty rough character, but he repented; the Governor of Georgia, on the other hand, is still proud of his own flogging exploits. "These men were trying to do the right thing," he said; "I was in a thing like this one time myself, but I got my man out in broad daylight," as if to say that persons who beat their victims at night should not be discriminated against. He is probably right, and it would not be a bad idea if Talmadge, the daytime flogger, were allowed to join his nightriding saints in Fulton County jail.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

Ku Klux Governor

GOVERNOR TALMADGE of Georgia brings home to us once more that Nazi doctrines emanate not alone from Germany. At a hearing to consider pardons for six Ku Klux floggers the Georgia fuehrer boasted that he had himself once whipped a Negro. He cited the Apostle Paul in an effort to justify flogging and expressed sympathy for the six members of the fascist Klan who are serving sentences for lashing union workers in 1938.

No less shocking was the appearance of a Jew, Ike Wingrow, as attorney for the Klansmen. When Wingrow praised the Klan, he was sharply rebuked by Dr. Edward G. Mackay, superintendent of the Atlanta Methodist District, and Dr. Louis Newton, prominent Baptist leader. Dr. Mackay accurately described the Klan as "comparable only to the despicable Gestapo."

Talmadge's latest exposition of the Hitler ideology comes only a few months after he brought disgrace to his state by forcing the discharge of two prominent educators on the ground that they had failed to discriminate against Negroes. His antics are a reminder that in the American people's struggle to rid the world of Hitlerism there is also work to be done at home.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

FLOGGERS LOSE APPEAL

Governor Talmadge Refuses to Parole Six Klansmen

ATLANTA, Dec. 1 (AP)—Governor Talmadge today refused to pardon or parole six convicted floggers who were identified at their trials as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

The Governor's action followed a hearing last week at which the six men's plea for clemency was opposed by a large number of Atlanta ministers and other persons.

The convicted floggers had carried on a reign of terror in suburban Atlanta for several years, according to Assistant Solicitor General Dan Duke. The men are Dan Eidson, Walter Forster, W. T. Walton, Raymond Bryant, George Cameron and Henry Cawthon.

Talmadge Refuses To Free Floggers

By the Associated Press.

ATLANTA, Dec. 1.—Gov. Eugene Talmadge today refused to pardon or parole six convicted floggers who were identified at their trials as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

The Governor's action followed a sensational hearing last week at which the six white men's plea for clemency was opposed by a large number of Atlanta ministers and other persons.

The men are Dan Eidson, Walter Forster, W. T. Walton, Raymond Bryan, George Cameron and Henry Cawthon.

Accused by the state of being members of the suburban East Point Ku Klux Klan, the six men were sentenced to serve one to three years on assault and battery

34-1941

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

GEORGIA

When Ku Klux Are Not Ku Klux

"They were dressed up like Ku Klux, but I'm sure they were only disgruntled laborites," declared a Key West (Florida) union leader, following a night-riding attack of the Ku Klux on non-union carpenters employed on a Florida defense housing project.

It is peculiar and unseemly that more than 200 Ku Klux may engage in disorders, exploding dynamite and beating up American citizens without Sheriff Berlin Sawyer, Key West, being able to make anything more than a guess regarding the guilty parties.

Everyone knows the difficulty at Key West relates to whether union or non-union labor will work on this project. It is known that the Lester Peru Construction Company received anonymous telephone calls several days prior to the Klan beatings threatening "trouble" if union men were not employed on the project. Following this, two or three hundred bed-sheet scoundrels arrived shooting their pistols and spreading terrorism in the camp.

The thing important now is that America find out whether union labor and the Invisible Empire are one and the same. We have been hearing much about difficulthe same. We have been hearing much about Communists agitating trouble in labor camps. The demand for higher wages has been charged up to the adherents of Joseph Stalin. The Key West incident exposes the Klan as the leaders of the movement to peg higher wage levels. Does anyone argue that the Klan and the Communists are together?

Frankly we do not know the answer to the question we ask. Most of the kept press charge Communists foment all of the labor trouble, but when the Klan takes the lead in terrorism demanding a closed shop, it makes just as much sense as the charge that was made several months ago that Germany and Russia had crawled in the bed together.

Of course the world (including Germany) now knows that Russia in signing a non-aggression pact with Germany was not in love with Germany, and was in fact attempting to protect herself against this evil day. The democracies made a bad guess regarding Joseph Stalin's intentions, and it seems as though here in America we are making the same blunder in connection with our labor difficulties. We watch Communists here while the Ku Klux Klan, behind a smoke screen of patriotism, form compacts with German Bunds.

Fundamentally, the whole thing hinges on the question of whether this shall be a government of laws or a government of men. The Klan has in the past been allowed license to terrorize and beat Negroes, and now, in this hour, when it is important that we mobilize all of our strength, we hesitate to throttle the un-Americanism of a group immortalized by Margret Mitchell, and who in "Gone With the Wind" caused millions of white Americans to assume it is all right and democratic to disregard the Constitution of the United States, and shoot Negroes away from the polls.

Well, the thing America must some day learn is that when we substitute government of laws for government by individuals, it is just as right, and just as moral to shoot men off government jobs as to shoot them away from government polling places. We can't love one and abhor the other. We must choose between law and lawlessness. In America we must choose between written and unwritten laws.

In a Texas courtroom the other day we substituted unwritten for written court proceedure. Following the shooting of a Negro in the courtroom we gave it unwritten sanctions in five minutes.

We never will understand what we have sanctioned here in America until some day, perhaps too late, the Klan or some other unconstitutional group plunges this nation into bloody revolution. We fail to recognize that the action of the Klan at Key West, and wherever there is disregard for orderly processes, is in such a moment planting the seeds of revolution.

The question we started to ask at the outset of this article is "Who are labor agitators?" Are the Communists, Ku Klux or just common, ordinary American citizens seeking the constitutional right to collectively bargain?

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Sordid Flog Drama Played at Hearing

Clemency Plea of Six Taken Under Advisement; Bitter Debate Marks Session.

The grim and sordid drama of the Ku Klux Klan floggings was played over before the Governor yesterday at a clemency hearing in which a Methodist minister sternly rebuked a Jewish lawyer for his defense of an organization which the minister described as "comparable only to the despicable Nazi Gestapo."

Dr. Edward G. Mackay, superintendent of the Methodist church in Atlanta, was addressing his remarks to Ike Wengrow, a Jewish lawyer, who had interrupted the ministers with a denunciation of the Atlanta newspapers for the expose of the Klan."

"I am amazed to hear a brother of the Hebrew faith so warmly praise the Ku Klux Klan," Dr. Mackay said. "I myself have despised the Klan for years because of its injustice to the Jewish race."

Taken Under Advisement.

At the end of the three-hour hearing, at which attorneys for six men convicted of flogging has delivered passionate pleas in their behalf and representatives of the solicitor's office and the ministers had just as firmly expressed their opposition, the Governor said he "would take the cases under advisement."

"I realize the importance to society of these cases," the Governor said. "When I have a reasonable ground, I like to turn 'em out."

Previously, the Governor had interrupted the testimony to say he believed some of the men thought they were doing the right thing and added, "I've seen some pretty good people get misdirected and act the fool."

The Governor had under consideration cases of Dan Eidson, W. T. Walton, Walter Forster, Raymond Bryan, George Cameron and Henry Cauthon. The last three were presented to the chief executive when the hearing got under way, since attorneys pointed out they were similar to the first three, for which the hearing was called.

Although the Governor confessed to packed senate chamber that "I got mixed up in a thing like that once myself," he would not reveal the nature of the flogging in which he was engaged.

In reply to questions from Dan Duke, Fulton county prosecutor, the Governor said, "I don't care to be questioned about it."

"Good people can get into things like that if they think they are correcting an outrage or evil," the Govenor said. "That is a dangerous practice."

The chief executive said he though the question of reformation ought to be looked into in clemency cases and said he would be guided in making his decision by the same law that governs the defendants.

"Protestant preachers have got to wake up," he said. "If a man is getting drunk and beating his wife, they ought to look into it. Good singing and eloquent preaching is all right, but they ought to have more courage. Politicians can't dispense charity."

Pastors Differ.

Numerous ministers opposed the granting of clemency, claiming they thought trial by jury ought to be upheld, while others took the attitude the Governor would be performing a Christian duty by granting clemency to the convicted floggers.

The atmosphere in the senate chamber was tense near the end of the hearing when the attorneys had completed their arguments and the Governor called on members of the audience to express their opinions. The preachers and laymen crowded around the rostrum where the chief executive was seated and expressed their beliefs without restraint. There was frequent applause and an occasional din of boos.

When Prosecutor Dan Duke had completed his stirring argument, in which he told the Governor he "should not add another precedent to Nazi technique by letting these men out," Dr. Louie D. Newton, pastor of the Druid Hills Baptist Church, was the first of the ministers to walk forward.

Speaks 'as Citizen.'

"I am speaking for nobody except Louie Newton," he said. "As

a citizen I appeal to you, Governor, to let us be certain that innocence has been established before we set aside the acts of the courts."

He told of how, as a youth, he used to go to the courthouse with his father and came to have a great respect for the courthouse and what took place within its four walls.

"I am concerned with only one point." he said, "that right should be done."

Later in the hearing, when the Rev. Grady Kent, Church of God minister who was flogged by one of the whipping crews, was relating the account of his beating, Dr. Newton interrupted to know if anybody present in the chamber was able to say why the preacher was lashed.

There was a shuffle back in the crowd as an elderly, thin-faced blind man, who gave his name as A. B. Barron, elbowed his way forward.

Answers Question.

"I cannot answer that question directly," he said in a shaky voice. "I can only tell what was circulated in the neighborhood out there. The people in the neighborhood said they couldn't sleep after 11 o'clock at night because of the fuss the preacher and his flock made. Although the services usually ended by 11 o'clock, some of the church people stayed around shouting and holding after-service."

NOV 26 1941

Dr. Newton declared he only wished he had more of that kind of spirit in his church.

Dr. Ryland Knight, pastor of the Second Ponce de Leon Baptist church, followed Dr. Newton. Dr. Knight asked the Governor to support the legal processes and see that no personal appeals destroyed the processes of the law.

Unleashes Tirade

At this point Isaac Wengrow, who identified himself as a Jewish lawyer, stepped out and unleashed a tirade on the newspapers and Former Governor Rivers and heaped praise on Governor Talmadge.

He added that "if Ed Rivers Constitution regarding Mrs. Ike Gaston, wife of a flog victim who was beaten to death, and charged that the newspapers were "looking for national, all-American honors, a Pulitzer prize."

"As a Jew I think there are thousands and thousands of good citizens who are members of the Ku Klux Klan," he shouted. "The Klan has performed worthwhile service in the past and there may be a need for the Klan again."

He added that "if Mr. Ed Rivers had had the statesmanship of Governor Eugene Talmadge" the defendants already would have been granted clemency.

Criticizes Newspapers

"The newspapers will not crucify these men any more than they will crucify Eugene Talmadge if he ever runs again," he declared.

Boos were heard as Wengrow completed his outburst.

Prosecutor Duke jumped to his feet and shouted, "He's changed his tune since he got a little $100 fee." Wengrow protested the statement, but the Governor quieted the two.

Dr. Edward G. Mackay, district superintendent of the Methodist church, then took the floor and tore into Wengrow's remarks. He said he couldn't understand how a Jew could defend the Klan, charging it used the same methods by which the Jews were persecuted in Europe.

"Any man who wears a mask is a self-confessed coward," Dr. Mackay asserted. "I have been opposing the Ku Klux Klan because of its injustice. When a group of men can grab you on the street and take you out and whip you, democracy is at an end. It makes me think of what is going on in Russia, Germany and Italy."

NOV 26 1941

Displays Whips.

To emphasize his plea, the minister picked up the whips from a table and waved them through the air as he warned that setting aside trial by jury is the most "dastardly attack on liberty" that can happen.

He declared it was never intended that the power to grant clemency should include the right for a Governor or other group to come along and set aside what the courts had done when no new evidence had been introduced or any reason given for extending clemency.

The Rev. Nat G. Long, another Methodist minister, summed up his impressions of the hearing by saying the attorneys for the floggers had contended four different thing: (1) that the defendants were not guilty, (2) they were guilty but had good intentions, (3) they were guilty but had bad intentions, and (4) justified the Ku Klux Klan.

Minister's Version.

In slow, measured tones, the Rev. Mr. Kent told the Governor of how he was snatched up one night by the floggers, taken to a lonely spot, stripped of his clothing and beaten severely and left to find his way home the best way he could.

He related, too, how for three months after the beating he and his family were continually warned to get out of the county and that finally he moved to Tennessee.

"When they took me out they told me they didn't believe in such religion as I was carrying on," he said. "They whipped me until I was unconscious — just because they didn't like my religion and the way I shouted."

The Rev. Robert O. Weaver, pastor of the First Christian Church of East Point, took a different view. He argued that mercy should be shown the floggers.

NOV 26 1941

Opposing Minister.

"While I despise sin I do not despise the sinner," he declared.

Lawyers for all of the defendants atacked the newspapers, charging that stories about the floggings before the trials "inflamed the public mind" so that the defendants could not get fair trials.

Reuben Garland, attorney for Cauthon, charged that the newspapers "carried on a campaign for several weeks before the trial and column after column was written by Ralph McGill."

When Prosecutor Duke took the floor he came back viciously at these attacks on the newspapers.

"God forbid," cried Duke, "that a crowd like those floggers can take away the rights of the press."

Duke recalled that persecution of the newspapers didn't amount to much when it first started in Germany but that it grew gradually until it became a monster.

Duke's Explanation.

"Why did they jump on the press?" Duke asked. "I'll tell you why. They know that you, Governor, have been having a little trouble with the newspapers. They said, 'We know that the Governor hates the press, so we'll just unload on the press.' That's what that was for. but I know his excellency is going to make up his mind on what he thinks is right."

Duke attempted to link all of the floggings into one series by pointing out the same cars, the same spots and the same whips were used.

Attorneys for the defendants presented numerous petitions they said contained the names of well-known East Point businessmen and citizens pleading for clemency for the floggers.

James R. Parham, assistant solicitor general and former mayor of East Point, charged the Ku Klux Klan sent him warning notes and burned a fiery cross in front of his house in an attempt to scare him out of running for office.

At the end of the hearing relatives and friends of the floggers filed past the Governor and shook hands with him. At the same time feeling was running rather high as they mingled with the opposition in the senate chamber. One woman with a child in her arm grabbed her husband, who was muttering under his breath, and told him to "come on before you get into trouble."

The Governor told the preachers he was glad they came and declared they ought to attend more clemency hearings.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

GROTESQUE GEORGIA

Last week's news dispatches from the Empire State of the South outdid Erskine Caldwell in indicating the grotesque character of civilization in that important stronghold of white supremacy.

DEC 6 1941

A clemency hearing was held by Governor Eugene Talmadge for several Ku Klux Klansmen serving one- to three-year sentences for lashing union mill workers in 1938.

A number of prominent white ministers appeared to urge denial of clemency, but Governor Talmadge sympathized with the Klansmen, asserting that "The Apostle Paul was a flogger all his life, then confessed, reformed and became one of the greatest powers of the Christian church. That proves to me that good people can be misguided and do bad things." As further proof, the Governor cited that he had once flogged a Negro, adding that "maybe I wasn't in such bad company after all."

Nothing inside or outside Nazi Germany is more grotesque than this spectacle of a supposedly responsible elected official ruling three million people, boasting of his brutality, praising sadistic law breakers and hypocritically quoting scripture in support of his action.

But worse than Governor Talmadge was Ike Wingrow, the Klansmen's attorney, who trumpeted: "I am a Jew and proud of it. It may seem strange for a Jew to say this but I honor the Ku Klux Klan. I honored them in the old reconstruction days and I honor the Klan today. These Klansmen were trying to do the right thing even if they used the wrong methods."

It remained for the superintendent of the Atlanta Methodist District to express amazement, "to hear a brother of the Hebrew faith praise so warmly the Ku Klux Klan. I have despised the Klan for years because of its injustice to the Jewish race.

"I am ashamed of any Jew who will defend an organization that is founded on the same principles and pursues the same tactics as the secret societies and groups in Europe that have sent so many of his relatives to the Ghetto. The Klan and its methods are only comparable to the despicable gestapo."

It would be difficult to duplicate this scene anywhere except in Georgia.

Here we have a so-called Christian governor and a Jewish lawyer defending convicted Klansmen, while Christian ministers condemn them.

The governor and the attorney are happily not representative Georgians but one can see in them the effect of terrorism and repression on the minds of men.

The union men flogged by the Klansmen were white but the standard of brutality was established by flogging Negroes.

DEC 6 1941

Once evil is loosed it is no respecter of races or creeds and soon it corrupts and demoralizes everything it touches.

National unity is going to have a tough time eradicating from power and influence such men as Talmadge and Wingrow, but eventually it will be done if good men, like the Atlanta clergymen who condemned the Klansmen, speak out more strongly and more often.

34-1941
Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

FORMER KLAN WIZARD AND 3 FIRMS FINED IN ASPHALT CONSPIRACY

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 24 (AP).—Hiram Wesley Evans, former imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, and three refining companies were fined a total of $30,000 in federal court today for conspiracy and monopoly in the sale of emulsified asphalt to the state. Evans, who had entered a plea of nolo contendere, was fined $15,000.

District Judge E. Marvin Underwood also assessed $5,000 fines against the Emulsified Asphalt Refining company at Charleston, S. C.; $5,000 against the Shell Oil Company, Inc., of St. Louis, and $6,000 against the American Bitumuls company of San Francisco, on like counts to which they pleaded nolo contendere.

Evans and the three companies were accused of forming a competition restraining association from January, 1937, to December, 1938, thru which they allegedly sold emulsified asphalt totaling $456,427 to the state at a price $90,000 in excess of open competitive quotations.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Ineligibles Clog Jury Venire, Cause Delay of Flog Trials

20 Members of Klan and 11 Convicted or Charged With Law Violations Among Those Summoned for Service.

JAN 28 1941

Eleven persons convicted or charged with law violations and approximately 20 members of the Ku Klux Klan were drawn for jury service in the criminal divisions of Fulton superior court, where W. W. Scarborough and Herb Eidson, former deputy sheriffs under indictment for flogging, were scheduled to go on trial today, it developed yesterday.

Also in the first panel was C. J. Scarborough, of Union City, who was said to be the brother of the former deputy sheriff who was cyclops of the East Point Ku Klux Klan.

Daniel Duke, assistant solicitor, asked Judge Hugh M. Dorsey to postpone the trials because of the large number of persons charged with or convicted of offenses, the number of members of the Ku Klux Klan and because he had been unable to locate two witnesses for the state. Judge Dorsey granted his request.

Persons checking the jury list said the number charged or convicted with misdemeanor and felony offenses was the largest ever found on jury lists for any one week.

Judge E. E. Pomeroy said he would consult with the solicitor and probably would ask the jury commission to strike out the names of the 11 persons so they would not be drawn for jury duty again. Judges can remove persons from jury service who have been convicted of crimes involving moral turpitude. Some misdemeanor cases do not involve this and persons convicted of these offenses are eligible to serve. Some of the 11 discovered on this week's venire were charged or convicted of drunken driving, or drunk on a public highway, while others were for larceny after trust, larceny and forgery.

JAN 28 1941

Attaches of the solicitor's office said the cases of Scarborough and Eidson will be placed on the trial calendar again soon.

GEORGIA

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Evans Fined $15,000 By Court

JAN 25 1941

Dr. Hiram Wesley Evans, former imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, Friday was fined $15,000 by United States District Judge E. Marvin Underwood for violations of the Sherman anti-trust act in connection with the sale of emulsified asphalt to the state of Georgia. Three refining firms, named jointly in the indictment with Evans, were also fined a total of $15,000.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Klan Flogger Draws 18-Months Sentence

APR 21 1941

Indicted on one count of a three-count indictment charging he was a member of the south Fulton Ku Klux Klan flogging gang, Herb Eidson, former county deputy sheriff at East Point Saturday was sentenced by Superior Judge Hugh M. Dorsey to serve one year on the public works, six months in jail and pay a $1,000 fine.

He was ordered held without bond pending hearing for a new trial on May 23. The ex-peace officer was leader of Sheriff Aldredge's "singing deputies".

The trial jury deliberated the case nine and a half hours.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Appeals Court Upholds Klan Convictions

5 Sentenced in Fulton Denied New Trials; Flogging Flayed.

The Georgia court of appeals yesterday upheld the conviction of five members of the East Point Ku Klux Klan who were found guilty of participating in a series of sensational floggings in the vicinity of Atlanta.

JUN 18 1941

Denied new trials were Henry Cawthon, Dan Eidson, Walter Forster, W. T. Walton and Raymond Bryant. Each received a fine of $1,000 and a sentence of 12 months in a public works camp and six months in jail for each count on which he was convicted.

Cawthon, who was styled the "head of the wrecking crew" of the East Point Klan, was convicted of the flogging of P. S. Toney. The complaint was that Toney had been creating a disturbance over the organization of a union in the Scottdale mill community. Eidson also was convicted on one count in connection with the Toney whipping.

Forster was found guilty of striking and beating Bert Harris with a heavy leather strap on March 21, 1938.

Walton was convicted on three counts in connection with the floggings of Toney, Harris and E. K. Ramage.

Bryant was sentenced on two counts for the whipping of James Wilkes and Joe Otwell.

In one of its decisions the court said:

JUN 18 1941

"By going out into the night in bands to flog people against whom they had grievances of some sort, or people whom they charged with improper conduct, the individuals assailed justice itself."

Decisions of the Fulton superior courts were upheld in all five cases.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Georgia Klan Aid Sought in Defense Corps

Imperial Wizard To Reveal 'Forces Trying To Destroy America.'

JUN 20 1941

Members of the Ku Klux Klan in Atlanta and Georgia will be summoned to the aid of the State Defense Corps of Georgia at a special called meeting at the Red Men's wigwam Wednesday night at 8 o'clock.

In his call for the meeting, Imperial Wizard J. A. Colescott said:

"I will give you accurate information not generally known, concerning the hidden forces which are endeavoring to undermine and destroy the Constitutional liberties, the institutions, and even the government of the American people. You will learn how you can perform effective service in the conflict which already has begun."

Klansmen whose training in private or public life has equipped them to handle tasks assigned to members of Georgia's home defense organizations will be urged to join the defense groups in capacities for which they are fitted.

"We have had appeals from national defense leaders recently," said Wizard Colescott, "and I am sure I shall be able to convince our membership that there is a necessity for 100 per cent cooperation."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Ku Klux Klan Not Concerned With Ga. Issue

JUN 21 1941

The Ku Klux Klan has no interest in the present Georgia school fight, according to anouncement by imperial wizard James A. Colescott.

The Klan will hold a secret emergency meeting at 8 p. m. Wednesday in the Red Men's Wigwam, but Mr. Colescott said the meeting will have no connection with the drive by Governor Talmadge against alleged teaching of racial equality in Georgia schools. The meeting is one of a nation-wide series to "revivify the Klan's campaign against the radical alien element," it was stated.

Georgia Bill Would Prohibit Wearing Of Masks Or Hoods

Another Measure Would Insure $75 Monthly to Tutors

JAN 3 1 1941

Among the new bills introduced in the State House this week was one by Representative Davis of Coweta. His bill would prohibit the wearing of hoods, masks or other devices that would hide the faces of individuals so as to prevent or intend to prevent identification.

The bill also opposes wearing of masks or hoods for any other purposes.

Another bill that would assure teachers in Georgia a minimum salary of $75 per month for 12 months was introduced by Representative Woods of Emanuel.

Revision of the Georgia code to provide that convicts shall not be worked more than 10 hours per day on roads, highways and in quarries, instead of from sunup to sundown, as now provided, was asked in a bill by Representative Luner, of Dawson County.

Prisoners would never be worked before sunup or after sundown or more than 10 hours at a time except in an emergency resulting from some catastrophe endangering public safety or health. The Governor would be empowered to declare such an emergency under terms of the measure. Wardens and others violating the provisions would be liable for misdemeanor prosecution.

The Fulton County Commission has before it a request from organized labor to limit prison labor to eight hours a day, but it is understood members of the county board are divided on the question. The matter was first presented to the board January 1 by Commissioner J. A. Ragsdale, upon his retirement from that body.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

A Lesson Learned

Three men, convicted of participation in the Ku Klux floggings in East Point area, last Monday surrendered at the county jail, and are today serving their time on the chain-gang.

John Hudson, attorney for the three, announced that they had all told him they "wanted to abide with the decision of the court," and, therefore, there would be no further appeals from the conviction, no further legal action on their behalf.

It is, of course, highly commendable that this trio has learned the lesson of proper respect for the courts, for the law. It is to be hoped the example set by them will have a deterrent effect on any others who may, in the future, be tempted to arrogate to themselves powers and authorities that belong only to the duly constituted courts.

The crime for which these men, and others, were convicted and sentenced, is one of the worst conceivable. For it attempts to make impotent the courts and the law of the land. It attempts to assume a prerogative of self-righteous judgment over our fellows that is beyond human ability. It stabs every institution of a free government in the back.

It must also be remembered that the courts of the land are backed by public opinion. There were charges, after these men had been convicted and sentenced, that the local newspapers had inflamed public sentiment against them. These charges were made at a hearing for clemency before the then governor. Fortunately, he refused to interfere. The charges were made by the same attorney who now reports the sudden acceptance of the ruling of the court by his clients.

It is the duty of the newspapers to voice public opinion which, in these cases, was rightfully aroused against the perpetrators of the flogging outrages. It is the duty of the newspapers to remain ever alert in defense of the rights of the individual. Rights which had been sickeningly violated against the victims of these skulking whippers.

The sentences which these men must serve are light compared to the heinousness of their crime. Apparently they, at least, have learned the lesson of respect for the courts. If their example serves to teach others the same lesson the incidents will not have been in vain.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Ku Kluxism Gets a Blow from the South

OCT 1 5 1941

The unanimous vote of 41 Southern colleges, expelling the University of Georgia from the Southern University Conference, was a resounding blow to Gov. Talmadge and the Ku Kluxism he personifies.

A few weeks ago, Talmadge, through high-handed methods, forced the dismissal of Dr. Walter Cocking from the University of Georgia and Dr. Marvin Pittman from the presidency of the South Georgia Teachers College, on the ground that they advocated equality for the Negro people in education. To the credit of many liberal educators in the state, it must be said that Talmadge had to pack the Board of Regents with his stooges after a bonafide majority of the members had refused his Hitler ukases.

OCT 1 5 1941

The resolution of the Conference—that the dismissal of Dr. Cocking was a "contradiction of the ideal of education and a threat to democracy in America"—shows that Talmadge does not speak for the people of the South.

That the students of the University of Georgia support the Conference action can be seen by the fact that 1,500 of them paraded through Athens, the University seat, in a dramatic demonstration against Talmadge. Their actions taken together with that of 41 Southern institutions from Maryland to Texas, show the development of progressivism in the South. The white masses are learning that their democratic salvation lies in common cause with the Negro people, and the labor and liberal movement has made encouraging headway since the stimulus of the Scottsboro and Herndon cases.

The America First Committee and other friends of Hitler also received a rebuke. For the Ku Klux racial theories represented by Talmadge are mouthed from the platform by that Quisling Lindbergh.

OCT 1 5 1941

Nothing is more alien to the American tradition of sports than the Ku Klux mentality. And the Northern universities would do well to follow the example of the Southern University Conference. Meanwhile, baseball fans should insist more than ever upon the elimination of the ban against Negro players in the big leagues. National unity to crush Hitler fosters the spirit for equality between Negro and white in the face of the common danger to the country.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Should Be Warning

Governor Talmadge has, quite properly, refused to pardon or parole the six convicted floggers of East Point. Now these men must serve the terms imposed by the court, in the state prisons.

DEC 3 - 1941

After a hearing on the clemency pleas of the six, at which many ministers of the gospel appeared to oppose such ill-judged clemency, the Governor has decided to withhold executive clemency. Upon whatever grounds he based that decision, the decision can but be commended by all good citizens who believe in the maintenance of public order and in the respect due to the courts of law.

DEC 3 - 1941

Already, tragic and horrible though the series of floggings were, the apprehension and conviction of the guilty men has served good purpose. It has, for one thing, resulted in decision, by the Ku Klux Klan, to abandon the wearing of masks in public places. That, alone, is a tremendous gain.

The six men who, having exhausted every legal avenue for escape from their just deserts, must now serve prison terms, can serve Georgia, even if only by example. For the punishment meted to them should serve as constant warning to others who may be tempted to take the law into their own hands. The aroused sentiment of decent Georgia has put all present and potential hoodlums on stern notice that this state will stand for no further rapes of her courts of justice, no further outrages by private mobs, regardless of the excuses alleged.

34-1941
Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

GUEST EDITORIAL

DEC 13 1941

Opinions of Amsterdam-Star News readers or Timely editorials from other newspapers will appear in this column each week. Please limit your article to 500 words.

"GOOD PEOPLE"—GOV. TALMADGE

(An Editorial from the Baltimore Sun)

The six convicted floggers to whom Gov. Eugene Talmadge of Georgia is being asked to grant clemency, include two former law officers, one a policeman, the other a deputy sheriff. The evidence showed that these men, sworn to enforce the law, had joined with others to violate it. There were twenty-three cases of flogging reported in and around East Point, a suburb of Atlanta, but no one was indicted after Isaac Gaston, a barber, died under the lash. No one was ever indicted for the murder of Gaston, but seventeen men were charged with other floggings, of whom six were convicted.

DEC 13 1941

At the hearing Governor Talmadge remarked that "good people can get mixed up in things like that." Presumably he had in mind the evidence given at the trial that at least three of the indicted men were noted church workers. Moreover, only one of the victims was flogged for being a union organizer, which some people, even in Georgia, admit is not a crime. The others were attacked on account of various alleged offences against the community mores—women for loose conduct with men, and men for associating with notorious women, for drinking too much, for loafing, and so on.

Apparently people who think they possess a divine right to regulate their neighbors are regarded by Governor Talmadge as good people. That may be true in Georgia and Germany, but if so it is an indication that Georgia's civilization is only skin-deep. Elsewhere people who arrogate to themselves the right to dictate law and morals are regarded as very nearly the worst kind of people. They are the sort who parade in nightgowns, in Georgia, and in fancy shirts in other places; and the world knows only too well how easy it is for them to progress from clowning all the way to murder.

DEC 13 1941

34-1941
Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Scarborough Quits Post as Deputy Sheriff

Officer Was Indicted and Acquitted in Flogging Cases.

DEC 31 194

W. W. Scarborough, Fulton county deputy sheriff who was indicted in connection with the Ku Klux Klan floggings in East Point and acquitted in superior court, resigned yesterday, effective January 1.

When indicted, Scarborough was suspended by Sheriff J. C. Aldredge, who restored him to his position when he was acquitted.

In his letter to the sheriff, Scarborough, who was formerly cyclops of the Klan in East Point, said:

"It has been a great pleasure to be associated with you and your spendid staff of deputies, and I want you to know that I have appreciated every act of kindness and courtesy shown me.

"In my new work I shall continue to hold only the highest regard and best wishes for you and your associates."

DEC 31 194

Scarborough was indicted with Deputy Sheriffs Herb Eidson and Ed Burdette and 15 others. Eidson was convicted but the charges against Burdette were nol-prossed.

The grand jury investigation into the floggings resulted from the death of Ike Gaston, East Point barber, whose body was found in a field near East Point.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

NOV 26 1941

Dan Duke Waves Lash Before Talmadge at Pen Hearing

OPPOSING CLEMENCY for six convicted floggers who appealed for liberation from prison, Asst. Solicitor Dan Duke (right) of Fulton county waved a leather lash before Governor Talmadge (left) at a public hearing in Atlanta, Ga., and told the chief executive he "should not add another precedent to Nazi technique by letting these men out." Duke said the lash was the one, or similar to the one, used by the floggers.

Big Whips Lashed on Talmadge Desk By Prosecutor at Clemency Hearing

NOV 26 1941

Governor Reserves Decision on Flogging Case Appeals, Opposed by Number of Ministers

ATLANTA, (AP)—A prosecutor flung two heavy leather lashes across the desk of Governor Eugene Talmadge Tuesday during a clemency hearing for six convicted floggers and roared that they were whips "you could kill a bull elephant with." The six white men, sentenced to various prison terms, were charged by the state with being members of the Ku Klux Klan and with being responsible for a series of suburban night floggings.

NOV 26 1941

In a jammed senate chamber of the state capitol, Assistant Solicitor Dan Duke cracked the lashes over the governor's desk and said they were the ones, or similar to the ones, used by the floggers.

The black-thatched Talmadge, who said he once had been mixed up in a similar situation that occurred in broad daylight, said floggings "are a dangerous practice," but added that he had found "good people can get mixed up in things like that."

Talmadge reserved decision on the pleas, which were opposed by a number of ministers of several denominations with the assertion that the churches and the preachers are better able than the court to correct wrongs.

NOV 26 1941

The governor told the crowd that "reformation should enter into clemency." He said that "whenever I've got a reasonable ground—mark that word well—I love to turn them out."

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Flogging-Approval Called Nazi Technique by Southern Group

NOV 30 1941

Special to THE CONSTITUTION.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—Six prominent southerners today accused Governor Eugene Talmadge of Georgia of using "Nazi techniques" by giving his approval to the flogging of six CIO workers by the Ku Klux Klan, according to a statement released by the Fight for Freedom.

Those who commented on Talmadge's action were Silliman Evans, publisher of the Nashville Tennesseean and the New Chicago Sun; Dr. Frank Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and member of the National Defense Mediation Board; Herbert Agar, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal and a member of the executive committee of Fight for Freedom; George Watts Hill, Durham, N. C., industrialist and banker; John Temple Graves, nationally known columnist and editor of the Birmingham Herald, and Virginius Dabney, distinguished editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Dabney—Eliminate Intolerance.

Dabney declared that "It is an anomalous circumstance that the south, which seems more clearly aware of the Nazi menace than any other region of the United States, should have produced a Talmadge—whose bigotry and reactionism tend to negate the very things which the south as a whole shows it is unwilling to fight for.

"Southerners of good will, both inside and outside of Georgia, must unite to eliminate such intolerance from our life."

Agar's statement asserted that, "Civilization means due process of law. Civilization means accepting a code of conduct which makes it possible for man to respect his neighbors, and therefore to respect himself. Barbarism means the reign of violence and of disrespect for the humanity of man."

"The world is divided today in the final fight between civilization and barbarism. We know where America stands. We know where Hitler stands. It is up to the citizens of Georgia to make sure that Governor Talmadge does not put them on the wrong side in this fight."

Hill—"Ugly Spectacle."

George Watts Hill said that "the spectacle of the Governor of one of our 48 states tacitly approving the flogging of six men by the Ku Klux Klan is disgusting to all of us who believe in freedom."

"What we are seing in Georgia is the ugly spectacle of the Nazi technique, approved and justified by a public official. I am certain the people of Georgia do not approve their Governor's action and that freedom-loving Americans everywhere will renounce it."

Graves commented: "The two greatest sins that can be committed against the south are the sin of laying unholy hands on its education process and the sin of agitating falsely the most difficult race problem with which any people ever had to deal.

"Eugene Talmadge is guilty of both and at a time when we need all the unity and light against the No. 1 enemy problem of the world, the men with the little black mustache.

Graham—"Unworthy of Georgia."

Graha mstated: "In backing the fight for freedom in the world we must not lose sight of the fight for freedom in America. Floggings, Ku Kluxing and intolerant racialism are American counterparts of Nazism and must be resisted by true Americans everywhere and especially where countenanced by a Governor unworthy of such a great state as Georgia."

Silliman Evans said, "We cannot, with clear conscience, condemn racial intolerance on the international scene if we condone by silence in this country such actions as the Klan floggings in Georgia. The people of the United States, of the entire south, and, I am sure, of the state of Georgia, will not be misled by the kind of Nazi reasoning being used by Governor Talmadge to whitewash a stain on American democracy. Was the Apostle Paul ever a member of the Ku Klux Klan?" Evans referred to a statement by Talmadge that "the Apostle Paul once was a flogger in his life."

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

ONE WORD MORE

By RALPH McGILL.

"GOOD PEOPLE" It is reported that the Governor will today, or on Monday, announce his decision with regard to freeing the "good people," as he termed them, who have been convicted at a cost of about $24,000, of flogging certain persons who have incurred their wrath.

The presumption is he will free them. With all his reported passion for economy, it would be most practical if he would, with the pardons or paroles, also announce that in the future he will advise the solicitor general, in advance of trial by jury, of those whom he will pardon. This would save the people money. In the case of the floggers, for instance, it would have saved the county $24,000. It would also save the judges and the jurymen the trouble of hearing evidence and arriving at a verdict of guilty, as they did in the case of the floggers. It also would save the court the trouble of refusing a new trial, as was done in the case of some of the convicted floggers who appealed.

If he does not parole or pardon them it will be because his peremptory order to the attorneys for the floggers to "have some preachers up here to speak for these men," caused a number of well-known preachers to appear who urged the pardons be not granted. The order to "have some preachers up here to speak for these men" was a gratuitous insult to the whole preaching profession and is so regarded. It is especially so regarded by the Holiness church ministers, one of whom the Ku Klux preachers had beaten because he was doing so much better a job than they, in converts and collections. It is so regarded by all intelligent ministers who resent the fact a peremptory order should be issued to "have some preachers up here to speak for these men." The general opinion is that the pardons will be granted.

NOV 29 1941

"THINGS LIKE THAT" Chief interest, however, lies not in the amazing fact that pardons are considered for the floggers, but in the statement by the Governor at the original hearing:

"Good people can get mixed up in things (floggings) like that."

In that statement, which was followed by one in which the Governor said that he himself was a participant in a flogging, lies an almost perfect explanation of why we have such things as floggings in the south.

It was developed at the trial that at least three of the floggers convicted by a jury of their peers and refused a new trial on the basis the evidence for conviction was sufficient and unrefuted, were noted church workers and loud singers of hymns.

Somehow they had taken for themselves the divine right to go about flogging people who seemed to them to offend against the community. If, for instance, they found that a man was associating with a woman of whom these self-appointed floggers did not approve, they went by night, and usually behind masks, and whipped the man or the woman. They whipped some for drinking. They took what seemed to be a sadistic pleasure in it.

Ike Gaston was whipped to death because he drank. Ike was a good-natured, harmless fellow who had never hurt anyone but himself. Those who beat him to death have never been identified.

They whipped the Holiness church preacher because, as they said to him, his flock was singing and praying past 10 o'clock. They beat him into semi-consciousness, his back cut into raw strips, with that as the false excuse.

Men who indulge in that sort of thing quickly become brutes and act as brutes. The steps from the whipping of a man for going with a "fancy" woman to the murder of Ike Gaston are not far.

NOV 29 1941

NEXT STEPS So, the real interest lies in the fact that the Governor believes that people who believe themselves possessed of the divine right to regulate their neighbors are "good people."

It may be worth noting that almost everywhere else people who believe themselves to have the right to dictate the morals and the laws of their community, without regard for the established law, properly are regarded as the very worst sort of people. Never as "good people."

In Georgia this worst sort of people parade themselves in gowns and masks and beat people. One they whipped to death.

In Italy, Mussolini's original gang thought the same thing and went around beating people and giving them overdoses of castor oil. They wore, not masks or gowns, but black shirts.

In Germany the original Hitler thugs wore brown shirts and went around beating people and otherwise violating the accepted laws.

It is pretty obvious what happened to both these countries when that sort of "good people" got in charge.

It is no wonder Georgia's thinking ministers are outraged at the command to "have some preachers up here to speak for these fellows."

Ministers and the church all but disappeared when Hitler's "good people" got into power. Those who remain are ordered to preach certain subjects.

It is easy to see, looking at Italy and Germany, how swift was the progress from hoodlumism to murder. Ike Gaston's body is not-so-mute evidence of how swift the hoodlums progressed in Georgia.

One of the curses of the south has been that she always has had too many of this sort of "good people" eager to dictate morals or their own law; eager to commit violence or murder because this "divine right" to regulate their neighbors was disputed.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

The Pulse of the Public

The Constitution invites expression of opinion by its readers. This column is open for that purpose. All communications must be signed and all are subject to editing for conservation of space. Brevity makes argument effective and impels attention.

NOV 30 1941

SUGGESTS FLOGGING AS KLAN INITIATION

Editor Constitution: Ralph McGill has been turning on a full-battery verbal barrage against the Ku Klux Klan floggers and floggings recently, but neither he nor other editorial writers offer a remedy for the floggings which the evidence seems to show is caused by ignorant or irresponsible persons who get into the Klan. Even Klansmen in high places testify to this fact.

Now, I don't know anything about the initiation rules of the Klan, but if I did, and were a member of the Kleagles or whatever the governing body is called, I would institute an intiation ceremony that would undoubtedly keep out every undesirable who wished to join up to "get even" with personal enemies by the midnight mask method.

Under my plan, each candidate for membership would be blindfolded and taken to some lonely spot where the initiation committee would take turn about administering the cat-o-nine-tails, or whatever the flogging whip is called. If the prospective member went through the flogging ordeal without a whimper, proving he could "take it" as well as dish it out, he would be eligible for membership.

NOV 30 1941

But if the candidate yelled bloody murder while the lash seared his naked flesh, he should be turned down as an undesirable, for it is a 100-to-1 bet that no person—in or out of the Klan—who has ever taken part in a flogging, would ever have put his name on the dotted line if he knew that he, too, would have to be on the receiving end of a flogger's whip!

CARL F. MORGAN.
Hapeville, Ga.

NOV 30 1941

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Gene Refuses Clemency Plea For Floggers

DEC 2 1941

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Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Action Against Priests Brings 'KKK' Warning

NOV 29 1941

Editor White Denied Police Protection

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Reverend C. M. Metcalf, pastor of the St. Peters AME Zion Church, who along with White has been battling for better Negro living conditions in the city declared that he doubted whether the note was sent by the KKK inasmuch as there is no KKK in a city which is predominately of foreign born extraction. This has all the ear-marks of being directly incited by the Hamtramck Tax Payers Association and the Catholic Priests of Hamtramck."

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

ONE WORD MORE

By RALPH McGILL.

"GOOD PEOPLE" It is reported that the Governor will today, or on Monday, announce his decision with regard to freeing the "good people," as he termed them, who have been convicted at a cost of about $24,000, of flogging certain persons who have incurred their wrath.

The presumption is he will free them. With all his reported passion for economy, it would be most practical if he would, with the pardons or paroles, also announce that in the future he will advise the solicitor general, in advance of trial by jury, of those whom he will pardon. This would save the people money. In the case of the floggers, for instance, it would have saved the county $24,000. It would also save the judges and the jurymen the trouble of hearing evidence and arriving at a verdict of guilty, as they did in the case of the floggers. It also would save the court the trouble of refusing a new trial, as was done in the case of some of the convicted floggers who appealed.

If he does not parole or pardon them it will be because his peremptory order to the attorneys for the floggers to "have some preachers up here to speak for these men," caused a number of well-known preachers to appear who urged the pardons be not granted. The order to "have some preachers up here to speak for these men" was a gratuitous insult to the whole preaching profession and is so regarded. It is especially so regarded by the Holiness church ministers, one of whom the Ku Klux preachers had beaten because he was doing so much better a job than they, in converts and collections. It is so regarded by all intelligent ministers who resent the fact a peremptory order should be issued to "have some preachers up here to speak for these men." The general opinion is that the pardons will be granted.

NOV 29 1941

"THINGS LIKE THAT" Chief interest, however, lies not in the amazing fact that pardons are considered for the floggers, but in the statement by the Governor at the original hearing:

"Good people can get mixed up in things (floggings) like that."

In that statement, which was followed by one in which the Governor said that he himself was a participant in a flogging, lies an almost perfect explanation of why we have such things as floggings in the south.

It was developed at the trial that at least three of the floggers convicted by a jury of their peers and refused a new trial on the basis the evidence for conviction was sufficient and unrefuted, were noted church workers and loud singers of hymns.

Somehow they had taken for themselves the divine right to go about flogging people who seemed to them to offend against the community. If, for instance, they found that a man was associating with a woman of whom these self-appointed floggers did not approve, they went by night, and usually behind masks, and whipped the man or the woman. They whipped some for drinking. They took what seemed to be a sadistic pleasure in it.

Ike Gaston was whipped to death because he drank. Ike was a good-natured, harmless fellow who had never hurt anyone but himself. Those who beat him to death have never been identified.

They whipped the Holiness church preacher because, as they said to him, his flock was singing and praying past 10 o'clock. They beat him into semi-consciousness, his back cut into raw strips, with that as the false excuse.

Men who indulge in that sort of thing quickly become brutes and act as brutes. The steps from the whipping of a man for going with a "fancy" woman to the murder of Ike Gaston are not far.

NOV 29 1941

NEXT STEPS So, the real interest lies in the fact that the Governor believes that people who believe themselves possessed of the divine right to regulate their neighbors are "good people."

It may be worth noting that almost everywhere else people who believe themselves to have the right to dictate the morals and the laws of their community, without regard for the established law, properly are regarded as the very worst sort of people. Never as "good people."

In Georgia this worst sort of people parade themselves in gowns and masks and beat people. One they whipped to death.

In Italy, Mussolini's original gang thought the same thing and went around beating people and giving them overdoses of castor oil. They wore, not masks or gowns, but black shirts.

In Germany the original Hitler thugs wore brown shirts and went around beating people and otherwise violating the accepted laws.

It is pretty obvious what happened to both these countries when that sort of "good people" got in charge.

It is no wonder Georgia's thinking ministers are outraged at the command to "have some preachers up here to speak for these fellows."

Ministers and the church all but disappeared when Hitler's "good people" got into power. Those who remain are ordered to preach certain subjects.

It is easy to see, looking at Italy and Germany, how swift was the progress from hoodlumism to murder. Ike Gaston's body is not-so-mute evidence of how swift the hoodlums progressed in Georgia.

One of the curses of the south has been that she always has had too many of this sort of "good people" eager to dictate morals or their own law; eager to commit violence or murder because this "divine right" to regulate their neighbors was disputed.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

The Pulse of the Public

The Constitution invites expression of opinion by its readers. This column is open for that purpose. All communications must be signed and all are subject to editing for conservation of space. Brevity makes argument effective and impels attention.

NOV 30 1941

SUGGESTS FLOGGING AS KLAN INITIATION

Editor Constitution: Ralph McGill has been turning on a full-battery verbal barrage against the Ku Klux Klan floggers and floggings recently, but neither he nor other editorial writers offer a remedy for the floggings which the evidence seems to show is caused by ignorant or irresponsible persons who get into the Klan. Even Klansmen in high places testify to this fact.

Now, I don't know anything about the initiation rules of the Klan, but if I did, and were a member of the Kleagles or whatever the governing body is called, I would institute an intiation ceremony that would undoubtedly keep out every undesirable who wished to join up to "get even" with personal enemies by the midnight mask method.

Under my plan, each candidate for membership would be blindfolded and taken to some lonely spot where the initiation committee would take turn about administering the cat-o-nine-tails, or whatever the flogging whip is called. If the prospective member went through the flogging ordeal without a whimper, proving he could "take it" as well as dish it out, he would be eligible for membership.

NOV 30 1941

But if the candidate yelled bloody murder while the lash seared his naked flesh, he should be turned down as an undesirable, for it is a 100-to-1 bet that no person—in or out of the Klan—who has ever taken part in a flogging, would ever have put his name on the dotted line if he knew that he, too, would have to be on the receiving end of a flog-

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ger's whip!

CARL F. MORGAN.
Hapeville, Ga.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

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NOV 19 1941

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"The trouble with those fellows was that they had good motives, but went about them in the wrong way," the Governor said. "I can sympathize with them.

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Present when the Governor stated his position were Eidson's pretty young wife and baby and his parents. When the Governor called in a minister who was appearing in Eidson's behalf, the mother quickly broke into tears.

"How many preachers have you got to speak for these men?" the Governor asked Attorney Allen.

"We have plenty of them," was Allen's reply.

"Well, get them all up here next Tuesday, and we'll wind this thing up," the Governor ordered.

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Age-Herald
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SEP 26 1941

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Executive Appears Weak as Result of Attack of Influenza.

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By LUKE GREENE.

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DEC 2 1941

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Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

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NOV 29 1941

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NOV 28 1941

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Colescott said that in his recent speeches he had been careful to make no attacks on any minority, "in the interest of national unity."

In addition, the presentment said that in Klan activities in Pittsburgh "deceit and subterfuge were freely employed to conceal the true nature and significance of their operations. Even the name of the organization was camouflaged. They hide behind the name of the "Keystone Patriotic Society" in order to deceive the general public as to the true identity and purpose of the organization."

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Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Such a World

DEC 9 - 1941

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Constitution
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Six Floggers' Clemency Plea Is Declined

Executive Appears Weak as Result of Attack of Influenza.

DEC 2 1941

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Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

KKK in Baltimore Seeking Members

The KU KLUX KLAN

In this period of reconstruction, is not concerned with tolerance or intolerance, it never was. With us it is a question of justice to America, justice to the Native born white gentile protestant and justice to a civilization free from a divided loyalty and all Foreign-isms of any kind whatsover

To tolerate an evil is a weak form of surrender, it may lead to treason.

Like other organizations we adopt a rule of eligibility. An applicant must be a Native-born gentile, protestant white man. To join this 100% American Organization place your name and address on the reverse side and mail to

P. O. Box 5112 Baltimore, Md

It will be treated with confidence

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

SEP 13 1941

BALTIMORE.

Recent rumors of the city's being flooded with cards seeking membership in the Ku Klux Klan were confirmed this week when such a notice was mailed to the office of the AFRO-AMERICAN.

The message, printed on a four-by-three-inch card of poor quality, read:

"The Ku Klux Klan, in this period of reconstruction, is not concerned with tolerance or intolerance, it never was. With us it is a question of justice to America, justice to the native-born white, gentile, protestant and justice to a civilization free from a divided loyalty and all foreignisms of any kind whatsoever.

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For "Native Whites" Only.

"Like other organizations, we adopt a rule of eligibility. An applicant must be a native-born, gentile, protestant, white man.

"To join this 100 per cent American organization, place your name and address on the reverse side and mail to P.O. Box 5112, Baltimore. It will be treated with confidence. The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan."

When interviewed by the AFRO, Neal A. Sibley, postmaster of Baltimore, stated that it is a policy of the Post Office Department to protect the holders of private boxes and, consequently, he was unable to reveal the identity of the person or persons to whom Box 5112 had been leased.

SEP 8 1941

He further stated that to date no complaint had come to him of any misuse of the mails. "But," he added, "when such a complaint should be lodged, it will be turned over to the chief inspector and an investigation will be begun by the Post Office Department.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Michigan Klan Spurs Jim Crow In Schools

FEB 13 1941

Ferndale, Mich.
Workers Correspondence Dept.:

For many years the Negro people of Ferndale, Michigan, have been struggling against discrimination. Jim Crowism is practiced here. In this small community eight miles from Detroit, is centered the activity of the Ku Klux Klan. Last year the Negroes were terrorized and threatened by the burning of crosses on their front lawns. This year the terrorization has taken a different form due to labor and progressive group protests. Children in the schools are now being discriminated against due to Klan activities.

One school which has 90 to 95 per cent Negroes enrolled has practiced the policy of Jim Crow commencements. The faculty and principal have been instructed to segregate the Negroes and whites wherever possible. This school also has the serious problem of overcrowding. The students attend school only half days and the classes are so large that there is no individual attention given.

These are the issues around which the students recently went on strike. The student strikers stated that they would not return to school until their demands were met. The Board of Education is being forced to consider the serious discrimination policy that is running rampant in Ferndale and in other Detroit schools.

IN DETROIT SCHOOLS

Other examples may be cited in the schools located in the industrial centers of Michigan. Miller High School in Detroit, whose composition in enrollment is nearly 90 per cent Negro has no provision for a gym, an auditorium or swimming pool. The Negro boys asked for their own football team last year but were flatly refused.

Northwestern High School, which was the scene of a series of assaults and attacks on Negro students last year to the extent that the case received nation-wide publicity, continues its discrimination against Negro students openly today. Because the faculty will not permit any interracial organizations the Negroes formed their own club, but the principal gave strict instructions to the teachers that no one should sponsor the group. The club has been forced to hold meetings outside of the school building.

The Detroit Youth Assembly Education Commission has been investigating conditions and issuing public reports and are now planning neighborhood actions to combat the rank discrimination in Northwest High School.

Bystander
Des Moines, Iowa

Negro Labor in Detroit Area to Lose Out Unless CIO Stamps Out Menace

NOV 27 1941

Detroit, (ANP)—The revived Ku Klux Klan in the Detroit area is more than likely to halt the integration of Negro workers into defense employment in this automotive and aircraft engine center, unless drastic, firm, and immediate action is taken soon by R. J. Thomas and other officials of the United Automobile Workers of the CIO.

This important question which was overshadowed by the captive coal mines and other issues at the CIO convention last week has become so important in the last few weeks that it may decide the future of Negro workers in the UAW and the whole CIO.

The Klan issue came into the open here recently when more than 300 CIO polishers staged a 30 minute sitdown strike in the Packard Motor company plant here because two Negro polishers, experienced workers, were transfered from non-defense to defense work. Although the Negroes were veteran Packard employes and good union men who had been working side by side with white polishers on non-defense work for several years, the situation continued until the Negroes were removed from defense work.

The Packard plant is regarded here as one of the strongholds of the revived Ku Klux Klan, whose Grand Imperial Wizard Colescott announced recently that he had several thousand members of his organization boring from within the UAW.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

The Klan Plans to Ride Again -- Detroit Center Of Hooded Fascists in $1,000,000 Revival Drive

Detroit, the nation's auto center and the home of one of the most militant and progressive of labor unions, the United Auto Workers, CIO, is today the experimental ground for a million-dollar revival of the Ku Klux Klan, according to "The Hour," confidential weekly bulletin published here.

Concurrently with the KKK drive, reports "The Hour," a vigilante organization calling itself the Detroit Council for Industrial peace, is conducting a drive with heavy subsidies from some of the city's biggest industrialists.

Both organizations are cooperating, "The Hour" says, in supervising and coordinating the work of numerous other pro-fascist and anti-Semitic movements growing up in the city.

KLAN PLANS REVIVAL

"At the Atlanta, Ga., convention in June," writes "The Hour," "the Klan decided to raise $1,000,000,000 for an 'Americanization Campaign.' Michigan, once a center for KKK activity, was selected as the testing ground for the program and Detroit is now witnessing the fruits of this decision."

An intense KKK recruiting drive in the alto plants is meeting with considerable success, the report states, pointing out that numerous workers fresh from the South have been employed in recent months.

"The Kluxers have made great headway at the Ford Motor Co., the Briggs Body Co., the Dodge Motor Co., the Motor Products plant, the Packard Motor Co. and the Hudson Motor Co.," according to "The Hour."

NEW VIGILANTE PERIL

"Five hundred new members were recruited at a night meeting held less than two weeks ago. Kluxers are telling prospects that membership in the Klan will insure 'quick promotion' in the plants where they work. As an inducement for ex-Klan members to return to the fold, the reinstatement fee has been reduced from $1 to 50 cents. In several plants, special strong-arm squads of Kluxers have been organized. The Detroit Klan headquarters at 89 E. Forest St. are humming with activity."

More "respectable" but no less deadly is the Council for Industrial Peace, which describes its sponsors as a "small group of manufacturers, merchants and businessmen—all substantial citizens."

The Detroit Newspaper Guild has branded the organization as "the newest thing in Vigilantes," while an officer of the United Auto Workers has described the sponsors as "professional strike-breakers, open shoppers and Red-baiters."

Guiding spirit of the organization is identified by this spokesman as Pierce Wright, "who for 20 years tried to smash the Building Trades Council [illegible] sponsoring committee includes most of the city's outstanding labor haters."

The Council, however, is making little headway in its anti-union campaign. Recently it engaged an auditorium with a seating capacity of 20,000, distributed 60,000 free tickets for a rally, and attracted an audience of only 1,000 potential vigilantes.

CORPORATION SPONSORS

According to "The Hour," the Council has been the recipient of $75,000 within the past month as donations from "some or the largest corporations in Michigan."

Another smaller group now coming to life is the so-called National Workers' League, organized some three years ago from the remnants of the notorious Black Legion by one Parker Sage, described as "a professional labor spy."

The League specializes in anti-Semitic activity, and is violently pro-Nazi. A recent declaration issued by the League calls for "unstinted support from all peoples professing any belief in religion for Hitler's war against the Soviet Union."

"The Fifth Columnists in Detroit," charges "The Hour," "receive ideological guidance from several prominent fascists who have established headquarters in the auto city. Chief among these are Father Charles E. Coughlin; Gerald L. K. [illegible], former Silver Shirt leader; Reverend Norris, rabble-rouser [illegible] and evangelist who was once tried on charges of murdering a man by shooting him in the back. . . .

"Under the skillful tutelage of these and other Quislings, the Storm Troop bands in Detroit are forging ahead."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Klan Influence Felt in Detroit CIO Units

NOV 29 1941

DETROIT—(ANP) —Increasing influence of the revived Ku Klux Klan in various locals of the CIO United Automobile Workers is causing widespread alarm here.

Overshadowed at the recent CIO convention by the captive coal mine controversy, the Klan issue nevertheless is believed to have reached a point of such seriousness that it may determine the future status of colored workers throughout the organization.

Discriminatory Strike Called

The issue first came into the open when more than 300 white CIO polishers in the Packard Motor Company plant staged a 30-minute sit-down strike because two colored polishers were transferred from non-defense to defense work.

NOV 29 1941

These two polishers have worked side by side with white fellow union members for several years. Although they were transferred in accordance with union provisions that transfers to defense jobs are to be based on seniority, they were forced to resume their non-defense status.

Thousands in Ranks

Grand Imperial Wizard Colescott is quoted as saying recently that he had several thousand members of the Klan among the ranks of the UAW. The Packard plant is considered one of the strongholds, while the UAW local at the Hudson Motors plant is said to contain more than 600 Klansmen.

NOV 29 1941

An effort to break the Klan influence is seen in the UAW executive board's recent establishment of an interracial committee of ten international officials, four of them white, to "combat discrimination."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Ku Klux Active in Detroit Unions

DETROIT, Mich.—(ANP) —The Ku Klux Klan has firmly imbedded itself in many of the union locals here and is striving to make inroads into the leadership under the guise of weeding out the Communists in the union movement.

According to a member of the international education department of the UAW-CIO, the Klan movement is being financed by industrialists and manufacturers in an effort to break up the union through internal strife, racial friction and other underhand methods.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Believe Klan In Detroit Will Hurt Negro Workers

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In an effort to combat the activities of the Klan and other anti-Negro groups, the UAW executive board recently established officials, to combat discrimination in the union. Plant interracial committees were established in each local union where Negroes and whites were employed.

The sitdown strike at Packard has become the first big case which the international interracial commitee will tackle. Although the sitdown strike occurred several weeks ago, the matter was only referred to the interracial committee just before the CIO convention opened.

NOV 28 1941

Opponents of anti-Negro factions in the CIO charge that this delay was occasioned by Communist Party and party-line officials in the Packard local. According to these critics, the Packard local is one of the last remaining locals, whose officers follow the Communist Party line. This criticism has also been made of several leading Negro sub-officials in the local.

Therefore, it is charged, the party-line followers refused to take a firm stand on the Klan inspired sit down strike for fear that the Klansmen would band together to defeat the present officers in the coming February elections. This charge is supported somewhat by the refusal of the officers of the local to put the two Negro polishers back on defense work after the whole membership of the local voted on November 9 that all workers should be transfered from non-defense to defense work in Packard's plant on a strict basis of seniority. The officials of Packard Local 190 are alleged to have justified their stand by saying that the resolution did not mention Negroes specifically.

NOV 28 1941

Only when critics of the local's officials threatened to expose a marriage of political expediency against the party line followers and Ku Klux Klan did the local interracial committee refer the case to the international's interracial committee. The success of the latter body in obtaining justice for the Negro workers at Packard's may have far reaching effect on the whole UAW and the CIO.

Packard's Local 190 is only one of several UAW locals in the Detroit area which are believed to be honeycombed with members of the Klan and the suppressed Black legion. The Hudson Motors plant, for instance, is reported to have more than 600 Kansmen in the CIO local there. In at least a half a dozen defense plants in this area. Klansmen have written signs in the washrooms and scattered KKK literature around the plants.

Officials of the CIO-UAW are cognizant of the Klan issue and its threat to its program of non-discrimination against Negro members. The executive board not only established the interracial committee recently, but also established a seven point program for the settlement of all grievances growing out of discrimination.

Unless this machinery is actually put to work and the officials from R. J. Thomas down support it fully, the UAW may be forced to bear the stigma for the first open and widespread repudiation of CIO's stand on the race question.

34-1941

NEW YORK

Nation
New York, N. Y.

The New York Campaign

IT HAS been said that the most important public office next to that of President of the United States is mayor of New York. Whether or not this is literally true, the mayor of New York wields very great influence nationally and the kind of mayor New York has therefore becomes of concern to the citizens throughout the country. This is especially true this year when the world struggle against Hitlerism dominates all political activity.

OCT 21 1941

The people of New York are faced with the choice of reelecting Mayor LaGuardia or placing in City Hall Tammany's favorite son, District Attorney William O'Dwyer. Where LaGuardia stands on the fight to defend America against the Nazi menace is clear: he is one of the most active supporters of President Roosevelt's anti-Hitler policy. Where O'Dwyer stands is not so clear on the surface; in fact, it requires a little investigation and the ability to put two and two together, politically. It is not O'Dwyer's alleged past progressivism that matters, but the nature of the campaign he is waging today and the forces whose prisoner he is.

In this connection it may be useful to recall the 1937 election in which Jeremiah Mahoney was Tammany's candidate against LaGuardia. Mahoney too was supposed to be a progressive, having waged a fight against American participation in the Nazi Olympics. But in the campaign Mahoney borrowed a leaf from Hitler and made "Communism" the chief issue. And there was not an anti-Semitic and pro-Nazi group in New York which did not flock to his banner.

Today the issue of fascism versus democracy is far more urgent than it was in 1937. Around Mayor LaGuardia have rallied both wings of the American Labor Party, anti-fascist Republicans and Democrats, the AFL Central Trades and Labor Union, and the CIO Greater New York Industrial Union Council —a coalition of the progressive forces of the city. And once more the Tammany standard-bearer seeks to confuse the issue with Red-baiting. His lip service to the Roosevelt foreign policy is part of the game. His real political obligations are to the reactionary appeasers and corruptionists who have taken him in tow. And it is only fitting that in his entourage, together with the America Firsters, Christian Fronters, Ku Kluxers, assorted anti-Semites and Hitlerites, there should be marching Louis Waldman, Social Democrat and former leader of the right wing of the Labor Party.

Mayor LaGuardia has not strengthened his campaign by his defensive replies to O'Dwyer's Red-baiting and by his lumping of Communists with racketeers. Nevertheless unity is being achieved. In the interest of this anti-fascist unity the Communist Party, despite important differences with LaGuardia, has withdrawn its own candidates for city office after collecting an impressive number of signatures for them. It is merely retaining one candidate in each borough for the city council. More of that kind of spirit is needed to defeat the appeasers and tin-box brigadiers in this crucial election.

OCT 21 1941

34-1941
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Oklahoma Klansmen Invade University Campus To Intimidate Prominent Liberal Instructors

By Eli Jaffe

(Special to the Daily Worker)

NORMAN, Okla., July 27.—Native Hitlerism rode the streets of this campus town this week as carloads of Oklahoma City Ku Klux Klansmen, dressed in full regalia and headed by Grand Dragon J. W Read storm-trooped their way around the University campus.

After marching through town distributing fascist handbills, the cavalcade of American Hitlerites barged on the campus passing out threats against Communists and members of the Oklahoma Federation for Constitutional Rights. Avowed purpose of the Klan, according to Read, was "to rout out Communists and Communism on the university faculty."

The masked and hooded KKK declared that the Klan was marching again in retaliation against leaflets distributed by Oklahoma Communists demanding the freedom of the "criminal syndicalism" defendants and a manifesto by the Communist Party of the United States urging a people's program against Hitlerism.

But main reports of the KKK leaflets were four prominent University professors who are members of the constitutional rights federation. They are Dr. Charles M. Perry, head of the government department; Dr. Willard Z. Park, chairman of the department of anthropology; Dr. William C. Randels and Dr. Maurice Halperin. Also denounced by the Klan were Rev. John B. Thompson, national chairman of the American Peace Mobilization; Rev. E. N. Comfort, dean of the school of religion and Rev. Paul Wright, Oklahoma City minister.

All of these prominent Oklahoma progressives, who have been in the forefront of the struggle to defend civil liberties in the State, have been subjected to intimidation by the Dies Committee and the State Senate's Little Dies witch-hunting committee.

In hearings before the Senate group this spring, Dragon Read distributed Ku Klux Klan material urging vigilante action but although he distributed the literature in the committee room, he was not detained for questioning by the committee supposedly investigating subversive activities. The KKK leaflets praised the work of th Dies and Little Dies committees and the prosecutions of Oklahoma citizens for criminal syndicalism which has resulted in ten-year convictions and $5,000 fines against Bob and Ina Wood, Alan Shaw and Eli Jaffe.

Progressive Oklahomans believed that possible motives for the resurrection of the Klan was the growing sympathy for the Soviet Union and widespread protests against the criminal syndicalism persecutions.

The Ku Klux Klan is seeking to become the center of vigilante and hooligan elements to replace the now defunct Oklahoma City defense battalion and Oklahoma County civil guards in order to stem the rising progressive tide in Oklahoma.

Read claimed that there are now 60 to 70 klaverns in the State with a membreship of some 20,000 to 30,000 persons. But progressives scoff at this figure and declare that the potential storm-troopers will arouse a statewide protest similar to that of six or seven years ago when the powerful Klan was smashed here.

JUL 28 1941

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

PITTSBURGH MAYOR FLAYS KKK LEADERS

OCT 4 1941

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Oct. 3—Mayor Cornelius D. Scully of this city has issued a warning to the leaders of the Keystone Patriotic Society, really the Ku Klux Klan, branding their actions as near-treason and unwanted in this city. The mayor promised that the first act which brings these agitators in conflict with the law will be sternly dealt with and has called upon all religious, civic, and social leaders to use their influence to drive this movement from the city.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Ku Klux Klan Meet in Philly

OCT 18 1941

Hooded Order Invades Quaker City; Map Streamline Program

PHILADELPHIA—With a neon light cross replacing the old firey cross and other marked evidences of a concerted attempt to "streamline" the order, some 20\ members of the Ku Klux Klan of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania met behind heavily barred doors at 814 N. Broad St. here last Friday. The new slogan adopted by the gathering, at the suggestion of Wizard J. A. Colescott, is "U before V—Unity before Victory."

According to information divulged later, Colescott announced reshaping of the Klan policies. "We still retain our original anti-ism viewpoint, but in the modern Klan there will be no whippings and no more fiery crosses burned in front of speakeasies and houses of ill fame," he is said to have announced.

OCT 18 1941

The new tenents set forth are (1) Against Communism, (2) Not particularly against but not for alignment with the American Firsters, (3) Not in any way identified with the Bund, (4) For tighter immigration laws.

The sum of $100 was reported collected and an additional $300 pledged from the gathering for "Americanizing Americans."

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

KLAN LEADERS INDICTED

NOV 29 1941

Pittsburgh Grand Jury Accuses Fraud, Conspiracy

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 28.—(INS)—Five leaders of the Ku Klux Klan, including Imperial Wizard James A. Colescott of Atlanta, were indicted Friday by an Allegheny County grand jury which charged illegal solicitation of funds and common law conspiracy.

The grand jury said the Klan was "unAmerican," and alleged that it tended to disrupt national unity in these critical times by stirring up racial and religious hatred and ill will.

NOV 29 1941

Besides Colescott, others indicted were Samuel G. Stauch, Imperial Kludd, and Frank S. Fite, both of Philadelphia; John V. Waite, Western Pennsylvania Kleagle, and Walter H. Klinzing, of Pittsburgh.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Fraud Charged

Klan Wizard, Four Others Are Indicted

NOV 29 1941

34-1941

By the Associated Press

Pittsburgh, Nov. 28.—An Allegheny County grand jury, in a presentment charging the Ku Klux Klan was "un-American," indicted James A. Colescott, national imperial wizard of the klan, and four others today on charges of illegal solicitation of funds and common law conspiracy.

Those named in the indictment, in addition to Colescott, were John V. Waite, Pittsburgh kleagle; Samuel G. Stauch, klan kludd, of Philadelphia; Frank S. Fite, of Philadelphia, and Walter H. Klinzing, Pittsburgh officer of the organization.

The jury said it found that in the klan's activities here "deceit and subterfuge were freely employed to conceal the true nature and significance of their operations." The jury added:

NOV 29 1941

"Even the name of the organization was camouflaged. They hid behind the name of the Keystone Patriotic Society in order to deceive the general public as to the true identity and purpose of the organization. The name (Keystone) was used as a cloak and a blind.

"We denounce this organization as un-American in principle and as tending, through its propaganda and doctrines of hate and racial and religious prejudice, to retard the movement for national unity so vital to our country at this critical time."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Klan Gets Active In S. Carolina

FEB 22 1941

Head of Order Says Appeal for Equal Pay "Challenge to White Supremacy."

GREENVILLE, S. C. Feb. 20.—The Ku Klux Klan plans to use all the resources at its command to fight the equalization pay fight of the Negro school teachers of South Carolina. This was revealed last Sunday afternoon when Ben E. Adams, grand dragon of the State Klans, lambasted the race because the teachers had appealed to the State Legislature for legislation to equalize their pay.

FEB 22 1941

Adams called the appeal a "challenge to white supremacy" and a "step toward social equality for Negroes." He continued by calling the Negro an "inferior race by Divine will" and called upon all Klansmen and hundred per cent Americans to keep the "niggers" in their place.

The broadcast was heard Sunday afternoon over radio station WFBC and was sandwiched between NBC educational features. WFBC is the local outlet for the National Broadcasting Company. This was the seventh in a special series of Klan broadcasts over one of the most powerful radio stations in the state.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

HOODED KLANSMEN PARADE THRU TOWN

MAY 24 1941

SENACA, S. C., May 22—(ANP)—Although there has been no trouble for years between the races in this little town in the upper northwestern part of the state, hooded men in Ku Klux Klan uniforms rode through the city about 10 p. m., Tuesday. The 20-car motorcade then went to Perry Hill, a Negro section, where an electric cross on one of the automobiles burned for a few minutes.

No effort was made to disguise license plates, and no masks were worn. The cars kept moving and none of the occupants got out.

Klan activities in upper South Carolina have increased during the past few months, and citizens in this part of the state feel that such movements near army camps where white and colored soldiers are quartered should be discouraged by the authorities. Camp Croft, where 14,000 draftees are stationed, is located in this part of the state.

Ben E. Adams and Fred V. Johnson, leaders in the Klan movement have for several months sponsored a weekly radio broadcast which upon occasion flays Negroes for no apparent reason.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Klansmen Demand More Restriction For Negroes

MAY 24 1941

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP)—For no apparent reason other than an attempt to bolster the theory of "white supremacy," the Greenville Ku Klux Klan chapter last week passed a set of resolutions demanding that certain steps be taken to "keep the Negro in his place."

The resolutions deplored the circulation of communistic literature which advocates the doctrine of racial, political and social quality, and the practice of taxi companies in allowing both Negroes and whites to ride in the same cabs, even at dif erent times.

State Grand Dragon Ben Adams said he would call a state wide meeting to consider similar resolutions. Declaring that the good relations which have existed between the races in Greenville will continue to exist only if certain checks are made, the resolutions recommended that the following be stopped:

1. "The policy of many employers in requiring white girls and Negro men to work behind counters and in other cramp quarters where it is impossible for them to pass without coming in bodily contact with each other.

2. "The effort on the part of certain white men and women to break down racial segregation by promoting closer social and political relations between the races.

3. "The practice of numerous Negroes in attempting to get out of their places on trolley and other public conveyances which in some instances have made it necessary to call law enforcement officers to put them in their proper places."

The Klansmen suggested that separate busses and trolleys be maintained during rush hours so that the races won't be crowded together: employers should "protect society" from the too close contact of employes of opposite races and sexes; and that every citizen should be warned to be on the alert against litreature promising Negroes privileges which are certain to lead to discord and destruction."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

DEMAND NEGROES BE RESTRICTED TO CUSTOMARY 'PLACE'

JUN 14 1941

GREENVILLE, S. C., June 12—(ANP)—For no apparent reason other than an attempt to bolster the theory of "white supremacy," the Greenville Ku Klux Klan chapter last week passed a set of resolutions demanding that certain steps be taken to "keep the Negro in his place."

The resolutions deplored the circulation of communistic literature which advocates the doctrine of racial, political and social equality, and the practice of taxi companies in allowing both Negroes and whites to ride in the same cabs, even at different times.

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OBJECTS TO ALL CONTACTS

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Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Protest Means Little; Speaking Date Is Filled

JUN 14 1941

Gives Negroes Equal Rating, Klansman Says

GREENVILLE, S. C. (ANP) — Fred V. Johnson, special representative of the South Carolina grand dragon of the KU Klux Klan, protested the scheduled appearance of Ned Davis, president of the Charlotte Negro Chamber of Commerce, as after dinner speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the white American Business club.

Rev. Johnson's protest was in the form of a resolution drawn up by authority of the grand cyclops of the Greenville klan. In part the resolution said, "Such appearances of a Negro in the capacity of an after dinner speaker before a group of white people is a violation of the principle of white supremacy and a recognition of racial and social equality and is in direct line with a Communistic movement being made to break down white supremacy and place Negroes on an equal basis with white people."

MISSED THE BOAT

Klansman Johnson missed the boat in his latest protest against Negro domination (as he sometimes terms it) for over a year white civic clubs here and in nearby cities have been using colored musicians, singers, and speakers as their guests.

Mr. Davis made his scheduled appearance at the meeting of the American Business club, in the banquet room of a local hotel. His address was greeted with gales of laughter (Davis is a splendid humorist) and his more serious thoughts given the undivided attention of the entire group. No klansmen appeared.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

S.C. Klansmen Demand More Restrictions For Negroes

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(ANP)—For no apparent reason other than an attempt to bolster the theory of "white supremacy", the Greenville Ku Klux Klan chapter last week passed a set of resolutions demanding that certain steps be taken to "keep the Negro in his place."

The resolutions deplored the circulation of communistic literature which advocates the doctrine of racial, political and social equality, and the practice of taxi companies in allowing both Negroes and whites to ride in the same cabs, even at different times.

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Resolutions Ask For Separate Bus. Street Cars

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

S.C. Cops Linked with Ku Klux Klan

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

Malcolm Smith, 36, deputy sheriff of Anderson, S.C.; Carlton Lindsay and Junior Vess of Greenville, S.C., alleged to have paraded in hoods and masks here on October 24, 1940, were found guilty by a General Sessions Court jury after a fifty-minute deliberation late Friday.

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Two members of the city police force after admitting their own connections, testified in General Sessions Court on Friday that County Sheriff Sam M. Henry was formerly affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan.

The accusations were made during the trial of the first three of fifteen white men charged with violation of Section 1131 of the State code as members of a robed-and-masked band which paraded here on the night of October 24, 1940.

The indictment charges the fifteen men "did willfully and unlawfully, while wearing masks, robes, hoods, colored glasses and otherwise disguised, walk, march or ride through the streets of the city of Spartanburg, threatening, menacing and intimidating James Fowler and numerous other people . . ."

Rode in Colored Sections

Frank Cane, James Fowler and Paul Beattey testified that they saw several automobile loads of the hooded and robed men in the colored section of the city and as a result, ran because they had heard of whippings administered by such bands.

The linking of the officers with Klan activities broke when defense counsel called several policemen as witnesses.

March 18 Years Ago

During cross-examination by the State, Sergeant R. C. Frey, veteran city officer, testified that he and Sheriff Henry had "even marched in a parade together," about eighteen years ago.

Patrolman Claude Grady, under cross examination, also admitted affiliation at the time, stating "so were Chief Hill (former Police Chief John H. Hill, deceased); Chief Bobo (former Chief Claude Bobo, recently retired), and Sheriff Henry; they were all members about then."

Sheriff Denies Charge

Under further questioning by Solicitor Sam R. Watt, Sergeant Frey admitted having been reinstated in the klan on January 1, 1940, and having paid dues on or about April 10. When asked why he had volunteered the information about Sheriff Henry, he replied, "I have a right to."

Testifying in his own defense, Sheriff Henry denied the charges and mumbled on leaving the stand, "I wouldn't belong to it."

Former Governor Olin D. Johnson, defense counsel, was overruled in his attempt to prevent introduction of any testimony in connection with the recent flogging of four youths residing on the Snoddy farm. His motion for a directed verdict of not guilty on grounds of insufficient evidence was also denied.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

DIXIE GOVERNOR EXPLAINS HIS BAN ON KLAN PARADE

Columbia, S. C., June 24 (AP).—Gov. Burnet R. Maybank said today his order against a proposed Ku Klux Klan parade in Spartanburg tonight applied only to a parade in hoods, and he explained that his charge that the klan is "supported by the German government" was not intended to refer to the South Carolina klan.

The klan in New York and New Jersey, he declared, has been shown to have had connections with the German-American bund."

He made his statement at a press conference, in commenting upon a telegram from Ben E. Adams, grand dragon of South Carolina, terming the reference to alleged support of the order by the reich as "false, vicious, and contemptible."

Meanwhile the governor's order was being considered by the city council in Spartanburg.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Sentence Three Klansmen For Molesting Negro

SPARTANSBURG, S. C., July 3—(ANP)—A jury in general sessions court here found three Ku Klux Klansmen guilty of violating Section 1131 of the South Carolina code—a law prohibiting masked gathering for unlawful purposes. They were also charged with intimidating and molesting a Negro man in a colored settlement.

The three defendants were sentenced by Judge Thomas S. Sease; Malcom Smith of Anderson, a former deputy sheriff, was sentenced to two years. Carlton Smith and Junior Vess, both of Greenville, received sentences of one year each.

These are the first of 13 klansmen to be placed on trial for a demonstration and the whipping of four innocent Negroes last fall.

Ironically enough, the law under which they were convicted was introduced and passed in 1932. Dissention in the ranks of the Klan caused one faction to ask for the passage.

Two city policemen who testified for the defense at the trial admitted membership in the Ku Klux Klan. Both Sergeant R. C. Frey and Patrolman Claude Grady testified at one time Sheriff Sam Henry, the klan nemesis, was a member of the klan.

Sheriff Sam Henry vehemently denied that he was ever a member of the hooded order and said he never would join such a thing.

The klansmen were defended by former Gov. Olin Johnson whose younger brother is one of the Klansmen under indictment.

Spartanburg is the home of the new associate supreme court justice, James F. Byrnes.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Three Carolina Klansmen Sentenced For Parading

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—(ANP)—Three men who testified they were members of the Ku Klux Klan received prison sentences here after being convicted of having violated a South Carolina law against wearing robes and masks. Malcoln Smith, Anderson was sentenced to two years imprisonment. Carlton Lindsay and Jonior Vess, both of Greenville, received one-year sentences.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla

Unmasked Klan Parades With Bowed Heads; Crowd Boos Grand Dragon's Speech

Governor Asserts They Are in the Pay of German Government

Three Klansmen Convicted

SPARTANBURG.—(ANP)—With masks and smoked glasses banned through orders issued by Gov. Burnett R. Maybank, who charged the Ku Klux Klan was in the pay of the German government, the parade of the hooded order last Monday resembled a motorcade of bashful men.

The klan already had a permit to parade before the governor's order was issued. So they went thru with it in about 40 cars, mainly of ancient vintage, containing around 200 klansmen. A police escort headed the group which had one innovation, that of women kluxers on the running boards of the leading autos.

The robed men seemed ill at ease. Many appeared to be playing peek-a-boo with their fingers. Still others apparently had stomach aches since only the tops of their heads were visible. The klan seemed to be little fun without masks or smoked glasses.

At the city park the grand dragon, Ben E. Adams, spoke from one of the klan sound trucks, a large white closed vehicle with four loudspeakers mounted on top. Adams was frequently heckled and booed during his speech.

The ban on masked parades followed a request by Solicitor Sam Watts to stop any such demonstrations in the county. He pointed out that masked bands had terrorized Negroes for many months, with the result that three klansmen have been tried and convicted with 11 others indicted and awaiting trial.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Denies New Trial For 3 Klansmen

SPARTANBURG, S. C. — (ANP) —A motion for a new trial for three Klansmen who were convicted under an indictment in which the state alleges they were members of a masked band which paraded here in October, 1940, and molested various citizens, was denied Thursday.

Circuit Judge Thomas S. Sease denied the trial motion stating that he is convinced that "the alleged disqualifications of the juror could have been discovered by the exercise of due diligence or even with the exercise of slight diligence." Grounds for the trial motion were supported by affidavits that E. L. Davis, foreman of the trial jury, is a deputy sheriff, and therefore was disqualified.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Unmasked Klansmen Bashful On Parade

South Carolina Governor Bans Wearing of Hood in Public—Grand Dragon Heckled While Speaking.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., July 10—(ANP)—With masks and smoked glasses banned through orders issued by Gov. Burnett R. Maybank, who charged the Ku Klux Klan was in the pay of the German government, the parade of the hooded order last Monday resembled a motorcade of bashful men.

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DAGON IS HECKLED

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Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Klan Parade In Carolina 'Lays An Egg'

GREENVILLE, S. C. — (ANP) — Only 70 robed but unmasked Ku Klux Klansmen turned out for a rally held Wednesday night in McPherson park, following a parade through the business section of the city. Grand Dragon Ben E. Adams, addressed about 200 spectators, and a trio of women klansmen was somewhat weak and off key.

Among the riders were women kluxers, children klansmen and a sprinkling of men whom observers say were not too impressive without their masks, hoods or even dark glasses.

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

3 KLANSMEN SENTENCED

Get Prison Terms for Wearing Robes in South Carolina

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—Three men who testified they were members of the Ku Klux Klan drew prison sentences today after being convicted of violating a South Carolina law against parading in robes and masks.

Malcolmn Smith of Anderson was sentenced by Judge Thomas S. Ease to two years' imprisonment. Carlton Lindsay and Junius West, both of Greenville, received one-year sentences.

The three, who were convicted by a jury yesterday, were the first to go to trial of fifteen men arrested after a masked and robed band paraded here last October 24 and distributed circulars. Solicitor Sam R. Watt said he would call the cases of the others at the next term.

Notice of appeal was given by former Governor Olin D. Johnston, defense attorney.—A. P.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

A New Day

In Charleston, South Carolina, citizens booed an open Ku Klux Klan meeting so vigorously that it was almost driven from the streets. Meanwhile, Roger Starr, 23-year-old New York draftee, denounced jim-crowism in the armed forces and demanded to be assigned to a Negro regiment. Said Starr:

"I am convinced that Negro segregation in the armed forces and the anti-Negro policies of many defense manufacturers question the sincerity of our talk of democracy and threaten the efficiency and success of our entire defense effort."

Both these events, in which white democratic Americans oppose discrimination and racial oppression, herald a new day in the country. The people's forces of equality and progress are developing strength, with ever larger sections of the white masses recognizing that they have common cause with the Negro people.

As late as 15 years ago, such hopeful signs did not make themselves heard so forcefully. On the surface the rule of the poll tax regimes and Klan lynchers seemed unchallenged. Even in the North, such forthright statements as that of Mr. Starr were confined, to a large extent, to a handful of greatly advanced labor forces. But all the while, among the workers and masses enlightened trade unionists and progressives were working tirelessly and patiently in the interest of freedom and social justice.

That work is bearing fruit. One of the surest barometers is in the South. The Communist Party has earned the hatred of the Gov. Talmadges and "Cotton Ed" Smiths because it has been the only party representing the desires of the Negro and white people for the ballot, a decent living and for equality. The Communists and other labor and progressive forces have added dynamics to the yearnings and just struggles for democracy in the South.

Hitler-like discrimination against the Negro people is not confined to the South but extends throughout the country in one form or another. These protests against it from the deep South and North indicate that the people can be united to end it forever. Some

progress has been made, but far more can and should be accomplished particularly now when the pres[illegible] issue is to destroy Hitlerism at home and abroad. Both these actions should inspire greater struggles to enact the anti-lynch and anti-poll tax bills, and to wipe out every semblance of Hitlerism from national defense.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Klan, Mobs Hit By S. C. Judge

SEP 14 1941

ANDERSON, S. C.—(ANP)—At the opening of court of general sessions here Judge G. Duncan Bellenger of Columbia, S. C., openly denounced mob rule as symbolized by masked groups seeking to take the law into their own hands, and make an appeal for the preservation of American freedom and ideals. He told the county grand jury that mob rule cannot be tolerated by the government of this country.

Without specifying any definite locality in the state where such incidents were prevalent, the judge stated that he had learned from the press that masked group had organized themselves for the purpose of enforcing the law as they saw fit. He called attention to the fact that mob rule strikes at the very foundations of our institutions; it threatens the protection that organized society has thrown around our homes.

Judge Bellenger stated, "I say to you gentlemen, that the laws cannot be enforced and the laws cannot be respected when men with masks take the law into their own hands and set themselves up as court, jury and prosecuting attorney. When that is permitted, law enforcement has been turned over to the mob.

"This is a free country and one in which our constitution guarantees our citizens certain rights and privileges and protection. One who violates the law in this country is entitled to fair trial by court and jury. We pride ourselves on our freedom. We can only enjoy that freedom so long as we abide by the law. That is a heritage you and I enjoy, but unless we live up to the law, we are endangering that freedom which we have a right to enjoy."

During Judge Bellenger's exhortation to the grand jury about the evils of mob rule, news came of the beginning of the Klan's fall prowls. After Negroes have received payment for sales of cotton, the KKK confiscated it as a dangerous weapon.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Three South Carolina Klansmen Sentenced for Part in Beating of Negroes Last Fall; Masked Gatherings for Unlawful Purposes Cited in Decision

For Molesting Negro Man and Wearing Masks

SARTANBURG, S. C. (ANP)—A jury in general sessions court here found 3 Ku Klux Klansmen guilty of violating Section 1131 of the South Carolina code—a law prohibiting masked gatherings for unlawful purposes. They were also charged with intimidating and molesting a Negro man in a colored settlement.

The three defendants were sentenced by Judge Thomas S. Sease; Malcom Smith of Anderson, a former deputy sheriff, was sentenced to two years. Carlton Smith and Junior Vess, both of Greenville, received sentences of one year each.

These are the first of 13 Klansmen to be placed on trial for a demonstration and the whipping of four innocent Negroes last fall. Ironically enough the law under which they were convicted was introduced and passed in 1932. Dissention in the ranks of the Klan caused one faction to ask for the passage.

Two city policemen who testified for the defense at the trail admitted membership in the Ku Klux Klan. Both Sergeant R. C. Frey and Patrolman Claude Grady testified at one time Sheriff Henry, the Klan nemesis, was a member of the Klan.

Sheriff Sam Henry rehemently denied that he was ever a member of the hooded order and said he would never join such a thing.

The Klansmen were defended by former Gov. Olin Johnston whose younger borther is one of the Klansmen under indictment.

Spartanburg is the home of the late associate supreme court justice, James F. Byrnes.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Klan Parade In Carolina 'Lays An Egg'

GREENVILLE, S. C. — (ANP) — Only 70 robed but unmasked Ku Klux Klansmen turned out for a rally held Wednesday night in McPherson park, following a parade through the business section of the city. Grand Dragon Ben E. Adams, addressed about 200 spectators, and a trio of women klansmen was somewhat weak-and off key.

Among the riders were women kluxers, children klansmen and a sprinkling of men whom observers say were not too impressive without their masks, hoods or even dark glasses.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Klansman Target For Rotten Eggs

CHARLESTON, S. C.—(ANP)—Ben E. Adams, of Columbia Ku dragon of the South Carolina Ku Klux Klan, was the target of eggs and over-ripe tomatos Thursday night when he addressed the first public meeting of the Klan held here in 20 years. He blamed the demonstration on several sailors and a marine and not on native Charlestonians.

The grand dragon paused only once to take notice of the attack. He said, "There's some trash like that in America but thank God most of you are real Americans". Adams and other members of the Klan donned their robes at the police station and were escorted to Marion square and back by police.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Colors Of A Candidate

Thursday, last, former Governor Olin D. Johnston, announced his candidacy in the special senatorial election of from defending his brother and others of indictments by a Spartanburg Grand Jury on whipping Negroes in Spartanburg last fall, is a perplexing problem. And how he shall be able to spare a few moments from Grand Dragon Klansman, Ben E. Adams, close friend, is another puzzle.

Mr. Johnston, while governor of South Carolina and campaigning for the senate in 1938, ordered out of the court house at Sumter, colored citizens who had come to hear his speech against Senator Smith. As the Negroes departed, the then governor boasted proudly: "I don't run after Negroes; I run them from me".

In the interest of good relations between the races in South Carolina it is well that the state not elect to public office persons of affirmed anti-Negro sentiments. At best, only harm can result from the continued harassment of the politically quiet Negro citizens, most certainly, have no interest in the way the white people vote. Tongue-lashing and ridiculing them at election time, as s the custom, is a crime of which the state should be ashamed.

—The Lighthouse and Informer (Charleston, S. C.)

Globe and Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

S. Carolina Klan Wants Negroes In Bed At 9 O'clock

LAURENS, S. C., Sept. 4 (ANP)—The unemployed extension director of the Ku Klux Klan, Fred V. Johnson, announced recently that the Laurens Klan has petitioned the city council here to pass ordinances prohibiting Negroes from congregating of sidewalks in the town, and requiring them to be off principal streets by 9 p. m. They also ask that all Negro activities be confined to segregated districts. It is reported, however, that there is no record of racial discord in Laurens lately.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Urges Law Enforcement

County Grand Jury Hears History Making Talk

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Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

New S. C. Senator Meets With Approval Of Negroes

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Charge Opponent Attempted To Raise the Color Question

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—On October 15, South Carolina will send a new U. S. senator to Washington, former governor Burnett R. Maybank. In view of Gov. Maybank's actions while governor, his election as U. S. senator came as somewhat of a surprise to most observers. Coming from a state long notorious for its Negro baiters in congress, Tillman, Blease, and Cotton Ed Smith, Maybank will be a welcome relief.

While Maybank can be expected to cast his votes along with the southern bloc against pro-Negro legislation, he, from his antecedents and nature, is not likely to indulge in the mad bellowing of some of his predecessors. Maybank is unique in South Carolina politics being a true Charleston aristocrat, wealthy in his own right.

UNMASKED KLAN

During his term as governor he was instrumental in unmasking the Ku Klux Klan and issued orders that no more klan demonstrations were to be held in the state unless the participants were unmasked. He went further and charged that the klan was Nazi dominated. Some of his closest friends advised against this drastic action against the politically powerful klan.

Maybank conducted his campaign on a high plane and no time did he bring up the race question. On the other hand his opponent, ex-governor Olin Johnson, indulged in a deal of mud slinging—"white supremacy, the sanctity of our women, the dire threat of Negro domination." His supporters made capital of Maybank's appointment of a Negro notary public, also charges that Maybank had shown entirely too much interest in the Negro teachers' equal pay demands.

In some quarters it was believed that klan headquarters in Atlanta was interested in Maybank's defeat, and quite some aid was given to Johnson's candidacy. Two alleged rape cases in the upper part of the state were branded by unbiased persons as political propaganda. Strangely enough both cases occurred on Sunday when sufficient people of both races were idle to bring on a race riot. A number of Negroes were beaten but all flareups were quelled by the local police peace officers. Bloodhounds brought up to track the culprit in one case always found a scent leading to a white neighborhood.

LEFT CHECK BEHIND

During a melee between a young Negro farmer and several white hoodlums, the colored former defended himself so successfully and injured several of his attackers so severely that he was forced to leave part of his crop in the field and left behind him his cotton parity check rather than face the reprisals that would follow.